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PART VII.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF ARABIA.

28

April to June 1906.

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ERRATUM.

Page 1, No. 2, line 2. For "24th instant" read "24th ultimo."

Printed for the use of the Foreign Office. August 1906.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Arabia.

PART VII.

[11238]

No. 1.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 201.)

Sir,

Constantinople, March 27, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 100 of the 12th instant, transmitting, for my observations, copies of correspondence from the India Office and the Admiralty in regard to the advisability of establishing tide-gauges at Koweit and Bahrein.

In my opinion, there would not appear to be any reason why, with the consent of Sheikh Mubarak, a gauge should not be erected at Koweit. Even if the facts are misrepresented to Constantinople, as is almost certain to be the case, I do not think that any official representation would be made to His Majesty's Embassy on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONNOR.

[10543]

No. 2.

Foreign Office to India Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 2, 1906.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, regarding the proposed visit of the Wahabi Amir to the Pirate Coast.

I am to inform you that Sir E. Grey concurs in the terms of the warning which the Government of India propose to instruct Major Cox to address to the Trucial Chiefs on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GORST.

[11423]

No. 3.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 3.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 23rd March, relative to affairs in the Aden hinterland.

India Office, April 2, 1906.

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Inclosure in No. 3.

Mr. Morley to Government of India.

(Telegraphic.) P.

AFFAIRS in the Aden hinterland.

Your telegram of the 17th ultimo.

Jacob's action as regards Rubaten is approved by His Majesty's Government.

India Office, March 23, 1906.

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No. 4.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 4.)

Sir,

India Office, April 3, 1906.

WITH reference to your letter of the 15th February, inclosing a copy of Sir N. O'Connor's despatch No. 57 of the 6th February on the subject of the proposed provision of a steam launch for the use of the Political Agent at Koweit, I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to inclose a copy of telegrams which have passed between this Office and the Government of India on the subject.

Should the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs concur in the proposal, I am to suggest that the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury should be moved to sanction the necessary disbursement from Imperial revenues of a moiety of the cost (which is estimated at 50,000 rupees), viz., 1,666l. 13s. 4d.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Mr. Morley to Government of India, February 20, 1906.

[See Section I of February 23.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Government of India to Mr. Morley.

(Telegraphic.) P.

March 14, 1906.

YOUR telegram dated the 20th February regarding Koweit. We propose that launch, to be built at Government Dockyard, Bombay, cost about 50,000 rupees, to be shared equally by Indian and Imperial Exchequers, should be provided for Political Agent at Koweit.

[12151]

No. 5.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 231.)

Sir,

Constantinople, April 3, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from the Military Attaché to this Embassy, reporting on the troops serving in the military operations in the Yemen prior to July 1905, estimating the numbers of the Turkish troops at some 80,500 men.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. B. O'CONOR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Colonel Surtess to Sir N. O'Connor.

(No. 24.)

Sir,

Constantinople, March 28, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency that I have received supplementary trustworthy information respecting the "detail" of Ottoman troops serving

permanently in the Yemen, and those sent thither in the course of 1905, up to the month of July.

This information I have the honour to inclose herewith in Schedule form (Inclosure 2).

It is, perhaps, of interest to note that, possibly, with reference to the present Turco-Persian frontier difficulties, orders issued to considerable numbers of troops located in Eastern Asia Minor to proceed to the Yemen were cancelled so far back as May-July 1905.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. CONYERS SURTEES, Colonel,
Military Attaché.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

DETAIL of Ottoman Troops serving permanently in the Yemen, and those sent thither in the course of 1905, up to the month of July.

Date ordered for the Movement.	Description of Units ordered to the Yemen.	Battalions.	Squadrons.	Batteries.	
				Field.	Mountain.
	Troops belonging to the VIIIth Army Corps, Sana'a ..	34	2	3	4
	Permanently detached from the XVIth or autonomous division of the Hedjaz ..	4	..	..	..
Middle of December 1904	Further detachments from the XVth Division ..	6	..	..	1
Middle of January 1905	8 battalions of Xth Nizam Division (Aleppo) ..	8	..	..	..
	54th Redif Brigade (Tripoli in Syria) ..	8	..	..	..
	56th " " (Jerusalem) ..	8	..	..	..
March 5	From the Arsenal at Constantinople ..	..	..	..	2
	79th Regiment, Redif (Marsah), and 4 battalions of the 54th Redif Brigade (Acro) ..	8	..	..	..
" 11	20,000 Mauser rifles, 1 field battery, and 2 mountain batteries ..	..	..	1	2
" 18	11th Nizam Brigade from Jazira ..	8	..	..	..
" 30	4,000 recruits leave Alexandria ..	..	..	..	..
May 2	3rd Redif Division (Angora) ..	..	..	..	..
	14th Redif Brigade (Isparta) ..	8	..	..	..
	1st and 2nd Battalions of 25th Redif Regiment (Berat), and 3rd and 4th Battalions of 24th Redif Regiment (Durazzo) ..	4	..	..	..
" 12	27th Redif Brigade (Kut) ..	8	..	..	..
	25th " " (Erzincan)† ..	..	..	..	..
	29th " " (Diarbekir)† ..	..	..	..	..
June 13	19th Division, Nizam (Kharput)‡ ..	..	..	..	..
	7 battalions of the 7th Nizam Division (Erzeroum)§ ..	..	..	..	..
" 15	2 " " " [Mush] ..	..	..	..	..
" 21	40th Hamidiye Regiment ..	..	5	..	..
" 24	24,000 Mauser rifles and 12-7.5 centim. guns from Constantinople ..	..	..	..	2
" 24	4 battalions of the 7th and 8th Divisions (Erzeroum and Van), in addition to those previously referred to ..	..	..	..	..
" 27	23rd Hamidiye Regiment ..	..	..	..	..
	24th " " " ..	..	..	..	..
	25th " " " ..	..	..	..	..
July 2	23th Redif Brigade (Erzincan) ..	8	..	..	..
	29th " " (Diarbekir) ..	8	..	..	..
	32nd " " (Tokat) ..	8	..	..	..
	Totals ..	120	7	4	11

Or, in other words, some 80,000 rifles, 500 mbses, and 90 guns.

(Signed) H. CONYERS SURTEES, Colonel.

* Order cancelled May 16.

† Orders cancelled June 18.

‡ Orders cancelled July 2.

§ These regiments could not be mobilized.

|| When on the point of embarkation this regiment received orders to return.

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No. 6.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 11.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 9th instant, relative to the proposed loan to the Sultan of Muscat.

India Office, April 10, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Mr. Morley to Government of India.(Telegraphic.) P.
MUSCAT.*India Office, April 9, 1906.*

Your telegram of the 12th instant.

Unconditional loan of 20,000 rupees is sanctioned in the circumstances.

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No. 7.

The Earl of Cromer to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 50. Secret.)

Sir,

Cairo, April 7, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 20 of the 20th February last, on the subject of the extension of the Hedjaz Railway, I have the honour to report that, according to confidential information which has been received by the Intelligence Department of the Egyptian War Office, work is now being actively pushed on between Medawara and Thalouk, a distance of about 120 kilom., and that the rails are expected to be laid, and this section of the line to be in working order, in the course of this year.

It is also stated that unbankment works will very shortly be undertaken between Thalouk and El Akhdar, a distance of about 80 kilom.

Work on the branch line from Medawara to Akaba is said to be temporarily suspended.

If this information is accurate it would appear that the Sultan has realized that, without the command of the sea, the Akaba route to Southern Arabia may be closed to Turkish troops at any moment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER

[13240]

No. 8.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 226.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 17, 1906.

THE French Minister made to-day a communication to the following effect regarding the Muscat Arbitration Award:—

The negotiations between M. Laroche, French Consul at Muscat, and Major Grey, His Majesty's Consul, relative to the application and interpretation of the Award of the 8th August, 1905, appeared to have settled the difficulties which had originally arisen. The French Government were therefore very anxious that His Majesty's Government should accept the list of French dhow-owners drawn up by their Consul, and delivered to the British Consul on the 4th ultimo.

M. Geoffroy added that M. Laroche had inserted in this document the names of

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No. 6 A.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 11.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 9th instant, relative to the proposed visit of Ibn Saood to the Pirate Coast.

India Office, April 10, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 6 A.

Mr. Morley to Government of India.

(Telegraphic.) P.

India Office, April 9, 1906.

IBN SAOOD. Your telegram of 15th ultimo. His Majesty's Government approve your proposal as to warning Trucial Chiefs.

[12490]

No. 6 n.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 11.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of Memorandum of external affairs relating to Arabia for the month of February 1906.

Copies have been sent to the Director of Military Operations.

India Office, April 11, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 6 n.

Memorandum of Information received during the Month of February 1906 regarding External Affairs relating to Arabia.

[Note.—This Memorandum is based upon reports the accuracy of which it is not always possible to guarantee.]

ADEN.

ON the 6th November, 1905, the Bombay Government submitted proposals for the development of a pearl fishery industry within the territorial waters of the Island of Perim. Captain Hancock, who was till lately Assistant Resident at Aden, has reported that pearl shell exists in sufficient quantity and quality around the shores of the island to render the fishery, if properly managed, a very fairly remunerative undertaking. The Naval Commander-in-chief, East Indies Station, has been asked whether he sees any objection to the proposal.

2. On the 28th November, 1905, the Bombay Government recommended that the Political Officer at Dthala should be allowed to fly a Union Jack in the Aden hinterland, where he is the representative of Government. The Government of India, on the 8th February, 1906, concurred in the recommendation, but they were of opinion that instead of issuing a special authorization enabling the Political Officer to fly a flag, it would be sufficient to grant him the local rank of Political Agent by notification in the "Bombay Gazette," when he would, *ipso facto*, become entitled to the privilege in question.

3. On the 13th December, 1905, the Government of Bombay reported that Sultan Sir Ahmed Fadhl, K.O.S.I., the Abdali, had applied for the payment to him of his monthly stipend of 1,641 dollars for one year in advance to meet the heavy

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marriage expenses of his second son and two nephews. The Resident at Aden observed that it was highly important at the present time to gain the Sultan's co-operation in the matter of the proposed railway through his territory, and in this the Government of Bombay concurred, and recommended the payment of the stipend in advance as a special case. The Government of India, however, did not consider that the grounds upon which the Sultan asked for financial assistance justified an advance of a whole year's subsidy of 39,384 rupees, but agreed to an advance of 20,000 rupees being made subject to the condition that the Sultan would undertake not to contract any other loans pending the adjustment of the present advance, without the sanction of the Government of India. The advance thus made is to be recouped by deducting one-half of the monthly stipend of 3,282 rupees until the whole amount is paid off.

4. On the 22nd December, 1905, the Government of Bombay represented that Sultan Kahtan-bin-Omar of the Upper Yaffai did not occupy the position with his tribesmen which he was said to possess when the Treaty of October 1903 was concluded with him. They stated that he was evidently unable to fulfil his covenants with us, and had lost any nominal position he might have held amongst the Yaffai. They recommended, therefore, that the Treaty entered into with Sultan Kahtan in October 1903 should be denounced, and that an interval should be allowed to elapse before the conclusion of a new Treaty with whatever individual or individuals might eventually be considered to possess most influence over the tribe. The Government of India, however, were of opinion that the course proposed was not free from objection as long as the boundary question with the Turkish Government remained unsettled. Attention was drawn to the necessity of proceeding with caution in the north-east districts of the Aden hinterland, which have not yet been recognized by the Ottoman Government as being within the British sphere (see paragraph 5 of the Memorandum for December 1905), and it was pointed out that, although the Yaffai are within the British Protectorate, the limits of their territory are somewhat undefined, and an international dispute might easily arise with reference to some portion of the area occupied by the tribe. Indeed, the fact recently reported that the Sheikhs of Rubesten, which has been recognized as belonging to Yaffa, had received intriguing communications from the Mudir of Rada on behalf of the Turks (see paragraph 2 of the Memorandum for January 1906), was an indication of the danger that might attend withdrawal of the direct Treaty which we now have with Sultan Kahtan, whose appanage Rubesten is said to be. The Government of India agreed that if serious or repeated breaches of tribal engagements were shown to have taken place, and if Sultan Kahtan, by reason of his deposition, were unable to afford proper satisfaction in respect of such breaches, it might become necessary to recognize some other tribal leader, but it appeared that neither Kahtan nor his fellow-tribesmen were chargeable with any specific violation of the Treaty or with any positively improper conduct, and, if this were so, it might be regarded as an additional reason in favour of allowing things to remain unaltered. The Government of Bombay were therefore asked to consider the matter further, and if they still adhered to their opinion, to explain more fully the precise nature of the ill effects which might result from a continued recognition of Kahtan.

5. On the 28th January, 1906, the Resident at Aden reported that a Turkish Revenue officer had arrived at Mufalis, with some troops, with the intention of collecting revenue from certain of the Shujaifa tribesmen. He stated that some of the Shujaifa resided within Mansuri limits in the British sphere, and that the Mansuri Sheikh had removed a force up to the frontier to prevent the collection of revenue from his subjects. The Subaihi in the vicinity were generally restless, and the Resident was writing to the Mansuri Sheikh to forbid any form of hostility. On the 3rd February, the Resident further reported that the Turkish Revenue officer and the Subaihi Sheikh had consented to refrain from trespassing, and to refer their disputes to their respective Governments. Consequently the Mansuri and other Subaihis had withdrawn from the frontier, and it was reported from the Turkish officials had also withdrawn; but it was anticipated that trouble might again arise after the Mahommedan festival known as the Id.

(See paragraph 2 of Memorandum for March 1904.) On the 1st December, 1905, the Government of Bombay, with the approval of the Government of India, authorized the Resident at Aden to withhold the monthly stipends of the Rijai, Mansuri, and the Makhdumi Chiefs until such time as Saleh-ba-Haidara, the murderer of the late Captain Warneford, was surrendered. He was also to inform the Chiefs concerned that the arrears of stipend which would thus accumulate would be paid when the murderer

was surrendered. The Resident pointed out, however, that, if the stipends were withheld, under Article IV of the Agreement concluded in 1871 with these tribes, they would have a right to revert to the old practice of levying fees on merchandize on two of the important trade routes tapping the Tais districts, namely, the Mufalis and Madraja routes. He stated that any reimposition of dues and taxes upon these routes was most undesirable, and might involve us in some form of hostilities. He suggested, therefore, that, to commence with, action should be directed against the Rijai only, and that the first step should not be the stoppage of stipends. He also mentioned that the Abdali Sultan had offered his assistance in case it were decided to undertake punitive measures against the Rijai. To this the Government of Bombay replied on the 6th January that the authority given to the Resident did not preclude him from taking milder measures if he considered they would suffice, nor did it compel him to use the full authority intrusted to him at once without discretion. In their opinion the temporary withholding of the stipends would hardly amount to stoppage of payment within the meaning of Article IV of the Treaty. The Government of Bombay further stated that it was quite open to the Resident to proceed by way of the stoppage of presents and correspondence, and that they were not prepared to contemplate anything in the shape of a military expedition against the Rijai tribe at present. The Government of India approved these instructions.

6. (See paragraph 3 of Memorandum for January 1906.) On the 21st January, 1906, the Resident at Aden submitted a report concerning the murder of the postal-runner near Sheikh Othman and the robbery of the mail bags. The postal-runner was at the time conveying the mails from Dthala to Aden, and the attack was delivered about half a mile to the north-east of Sheikh Othman, within British limits. The man was shot in three places, and also stabbed in the side with a native dagger, and, before he died, he deposed before a Magistrate that his assailants were five in number belonging to the Attifi section of the Subaihis. The Resident also informed the Bombay Government that the stipend of the Attifi and Yusufi Sheikhs would be withheld, and again suggested that the present would be a favourable opportunity to make a display of force at Am Riga and thence to proceed via Al Kadimi into the country of the Attifi and Yusufi tribes. On the 3rd February, 1906, the Government of Bombay approved the Resident's action, but stated that before they could recommend to the Government of India the Resident's proposal for the dispatch of a punitive force into the Subaihi country, they would need an assurance that a sufficient force was available to compel success in case of a combination in active hostility against the British Government of the several sub-tribes of the Subaihi, and possibly of others. They also stated that it was necessary to know, in case the offenders and property were not surrendered, what was to be the locality, nature, and extent of the punishment it was proposed to inflict, and also the period of the year when, having regard to climate, health, and supplies, an expedition could most successfully be carried out.

7. (See sub-paragraph 2 of paragraph 4 of the Memorandum for June 1905.) On the 12th February, 1906, the Bombay Government stated that the Resident at Aden hoped to visit Shugra and there arrange a Treaty with Boda. The matter would be personally discussed in Bombay, but before the Resident left it was necessary for him to have instructions as to the amount of stipend to be granted to the Chiefs and also as regards an increase to the stipend of the Fadthli Sultan, if it was found that the latter had been instrumental in bringing about the Treaty. They proposed to use their own discretion in determining both amounts after discussion with the Resident. The Government of India, on the 20th February, concurred that it was most desirable to secure a Treaty with Boda, and stated that they were willing to sanction an allowance of 150 dollars a-month. They also intimated that the Treaty should, as in the case of that with Dthala, contain, if possible, a condition requiring the Chief to be responsible for any boundary pillars erected, and for the safety of any British parties which might have occasion to visit the territories of the Chiefs. With regard to the increase to the stipend of the Fadthli Sultan, they thought it might be determined later on, when the terms of the Treaty with him could be fully discussed.

8. (See paragraph 3 of the Memorandum for January 1906.) On the 21st January, 1906, the Resident at Aden reported that the casualties at the post at Nobat Dakim were slight, and that immediately on receipt of the report, the Abdali was addressed with a view to ascertaining who the assailants were. He replied that the attacking force were probably the Juberi, a sub-tribe of the Subaihis. The object of the attacks was mainly to give expression to their general dissatisfaction with the treatment accorded to them by the Abdali Sultan and with his recent acquisition

of the post at Nohat Dakim (see paragraph 6 of Memorandum for December 1905). The Resident considered the incident in its present stage to be merely inter-tribal.

9. (See paragraph 6 of the Memorandum for November 1905.) Major-General H. M. Mason, Political Resident and General Officer Commanding at Aden, has been granted leave from the 14th March, 1906.

10. (See sub-paragraph of paragraph 3 of the Memorandum for June 1905.) The Government of Bombay, when reporting the detention and search of the pearl-fishing dhow at Imran Bay raised the following two points:—

(a.) Whether there was any special Agreement with the Porte, under Article XXII of the Brussels Convention, for stopping and searching a dhow flying Turkish colour;

(b.) Whether there was any other authority for such action.

With regard to (a) the Government of India replied on the 27th February, 1906, in the negative, but with regard to (b) they communicated the following observations:—

It seemed indisputable that, from the standpoint of international law, the rights of Great Britain as the Protecting Power in the Imran Bay territorial waters fully justified the action taken by His Majesty's ship "Perseus"; and this undoubtedly would be the attitude of Government in the event of representations being made by the Turkish Government. It was true that Imran Bay, where the stopping and searching of the dhow took place, though within British protected waters, lay outside British India, and that the provisions of "The Indian Arms Act, 1878," did not, therefore, apply in the present case; but, even in the absence of any special legal enactment providing for the exercise of such powers, there seemed no doubt that the detention and search were sustainable on the ground that the action by the "Perseus" was covered by the inalienable rights attached under the usages of international law to the status of a protecting Power. It appeared, however, to the Government of India that there might be advantages in giving definite legal authority to the local officers with a view to regularizing and defining the action that should be taken in dealing with such cases, and they considered that it was desirable to add the Indian Arms Act of 1878 to the list of enactments which it had been proposed should be applied to the Protectorate under the Foreign Jurisdiction Order in Council of 1902, subject to the introduction of suitable modifications in order to adapt the Act to local conditions. In applying the Act to the Protectorate waters, it would be necessary to direct particular consideration towards the question of legalizing the custody of vessels seized in the waters of Aden proper, and to the question of the place of trial for offences committed in the Protectorate waters. The Government of India saw no reason to anticipate any objection from the Aden Chiefs to our assuming the position hereinabove indicated, since our claim to control the arms trade in the neighbourhood of the Aden Protectorate was well understood locally, being, indeed, expressly confirmed by the Treaty with Lahej of 1881, which had never been cancelled, and which included the various Subaihi sub-tribes. Our claim was also covered by the Treaty of 1857 with the Akrahi, the tribe in whose territorial waters the present incident took place.

TURKISH ARABIA.

11. (See paragraph 7 of Memorandum for January 1906.) Sir N. O'Connor reported on the 4th January, 1906, that he had learnt from a secret source that instructions had recently been given to the Minister of War to dispatch 8,000 fresh troops to the Yemen. Sir N. O'Connor also reported on the 9th January that Feiza Pasha had almost certainly suffered a more or less serious reverse at the hands of the Yemen insurgents at a place called Shehara, and that he had been compelled to fall back to Omran, which is some hours' distant to the north from Sanaa. The Marshal telegraphed to the Minister of War from that place on the 4th January to the effect that, in the course of his retreat, he had been attacked by the rebels at Jebel Yezid and Hashid, but had succeeded after ten hours' fighting in beating them off with heavy loss. He intended to await the arrival of the 8,000 fresh troops referred to above, and proposed on their arrival to make a fresh advance on Shehara, where the main forces of Mahmoud Yahya were concentrated.

12. (See paragraph 9 of the Memorandum for January 1906.) It is estimated, in connection with the recently reported mobilization of Ottoman troops on the Persian frontier, that the strength of the 4th and 6th Army Corps consists of about 245,000

rifles and sabres, fifty-six batteries, and the fortress artillery. The Ottoman authorities should not, therefore, have the least difficulty in assembling a force amply sufficient to cope with any the Persians may be able to take the field with. The problematical attitude of some 40,000 hillmen situated on either side of the frontier between Bayazid and Bagdad is, however, a serious factor in the situation. Telegrams have been dispatched to the Walis of Erzeroum, Diabekr, and Mossul, ordering them to use every means in their power to accelerate the movement to the district of Wazna of certain troops of the 4th and 6th Corps. The announced object of the movement is to insure the safety of the detachments under the command of Liwa Izzet Pasha, which are watching the frontier. The Persian Ambassador visited Sir N. O'Connor on the 17th December, 1905, with the object of communicating to him a note which he had received from the Porte to the following effect. It was urged in the first place that Wazna (Vazneh), Lahidjan, and Pessweh were the summer pasturages of Ottoman nomad tribes inhabiting the Kazas of Suleimanie, Rania, Shehr Bazar, and Mamouretti Hamid, and together with Mirghian and Kelu Sheikh indubitably formed part of the Ottoman dominions. In proof of this claim attention was drawn to the fact that a Turkish Mudir formerly resided at Wazna and levied State taxes there; next it was stated that the Persians had continually encroached on these districts, and had recently collected 5,000 or 6,000 troops in the neighbourhood of Pessweh, thereby compelling the Ottoman Government to resort to similar measures; finally, it was pointed out that, in order to give proofs of its conciliatory disposition, the Porte had consented to the nomination of a Joint Commission of Inquiry, had already designated its Delegates, and would undertake to withdraw its troops from any point which the investigations of this Commission might show to be on Persian territory. The Porte could not, however, possibly consent to order the withdrawal of such troops as a measure preliminary to the inquiry. Prince Mirza Riza Khan then went on to narrate the various phases of his negotiations with the Porte. His Government had at first declined to assent to the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry unless the Ottoman Government first consented to withdraw its troops from the disputed points, which it had hastened to occupy. The matter had been the subject of discussion before the Sultan's Council of Ministers, which had twice come to an unfavourable decision, but on the third occasion had reported in favour of appointing a Commission. The Sultan had accordingly agreed to the appointment of a Commission, but had categorically refused to order the withdrawal of his troops before the decision of the Commission was made known, and had, on the contrary, directed that a Turkish force, equal in numbers to that which the Persians had assembled, should be hurried forward and should be maintained on the frontier until the opposing force was itself withdrawn. His Highness added that he had been confidentially informed that the Sultan based his refusal on the ground that he had yielded to the request of the English Ambassador under similar circumstances in connection with the Aden delimitation, and had, in consequence, lost a considerable strip of territory. The Prince considered that he had already gained a good deal in securing the Sultan's consent to the nomination of a Commission, and asked Sir N. O'Connor, if he shared this opinion, to inform His Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Tehran to this effect, as such a communication would have considerable influence upon the Persian Government. He added that the Russian Ambassador had already addressed a similar communication to the Russian Minister at Tehran. The Prince said that his own object was to arrive at an amicable settlement, since he was well aware that his Government had neither the military nor the pecuniary resources to enable it to offer a successful resistance to Turkey in the event of hostilities. Sir N. O'Connor told the Persian Ambassador that he knew that about nine battalions, with a considerable force of cavalry and artillery, had been ordered to the frontier. He recommended the Ambassador to do everything in his power to prevent an armed conflict, which might very easily assume dangerous proportions with so many unruly tribes on the Turkish side anxious to be allowed to raid the province of Azerbaïjan. He also said that he would communicate with the Russian Ambassador, and that he saw no objection to telegraphing to His Majesty's Legation at Tehran in the sense requested. Mirza Riza Khan replied that this would greatly strengthen his hands, since his Government appeared to think that he ought to have been able to induce the Turks to withdraw their troops from the disputed territory.

Sir N. O'Connor is of opinion that there is ample material in this dispute to lead to serious events, but states that if, as seems probable, the Persian Government decides without delay to accept the Porte's present proposal, it may be hoped that

complications will be avoided. He does not anticipate that the Turks will assume an aggressive attitude without direct provocation, however much the neighbouring tribes, conscious of their power, may be anxious to do so.

13. On the 30th December, 1905, the Persian Minister communicated to Sir E. Grey a telegram which he had received to the effect that the Persian Government were not prepared to consent to the formation of a Mixed Commission to inquire into the Turko-Persian frontier dispute until the districts of Lahidjan and Vazneh had been evacuated by the Ottoman troops. His Highness had accordingly been instructed to request that telegraphic instructions might be sent to His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople to support the representations which the Persian Ambassador had made to the Sublime Porte on the subject. Sir E. Grey informed the Persian Minister, in reply, on the 3rd January, 1906, that both the British and Russian Ambassadors at Constantinople had strongly advised the Persian Ambassador to urge upon his Government the acceptance of the proposed arrangement, under which the Ottoman Government were to appoint a Representative on the Mixed Commission, while retaining their troops at Lahidjan and Vazneh. It was added that Mr. Grant Duff had been instructed to use similar language to the Mushir-ed-Dowleh, and that His Majesty's Government were unable to alter the views which they had already expressed on the question. Sir N. O'Connor reported on the 2nd January that, in conversation with the Persian Ambassador, he had shown him the "identical map" agreed upon between the British and Russian Commissioners, which was communicated to the Turkish and Persian Governments in 1869 or 1870, with a copy of which his Highness seemed to be unprovided, and had pointed out to him that Kala Passova, which had been occupied by the Persian troops, was outside the zone of 20 to 40 miles reserved for delimitation by the Commissioners. His Highness seemed highly pleased at receiving this piece of information, and said that he would go at once to the Porte and ask for the production of the map. He hoped that this substantial evidence of the validity of the Persian claim to Passova would induce the Ottoman Government to withdraw their troops from that place, and thus enable his Government to participate in the appointment of a Mixed Commission.

14. Sir N. O'Connor stated on the 17th January that a Report had been received of an encounter on the frontier near Kasli-Gol between Ottoman troops and Kurds. The disturbance appears to have been due to the fact that a Kurdish tribe dwelling on the Persian side of the frontier had made encroachments on the pasturage claimed by another part of the same tribe in Turkish territory.

15. (See paragraph 10 of the Memorandum for December 1905.) An oval tablet, said to be of great beauty, has been presented to His Majesty the Sultan by Indian subscribers to the Hedjaz Railway.

16. Sir N. O'Connor reported on the 2nd January that he had heard confidentially that formal proposals had been made to the Porte by the Honorary Turkish Consul in Paris, M. Elie Leon, for the construction of a railway in the Yemen, from Hodiedah, through Jemile to Sanna, and thence to Tais Asir, and elsewhere. M. Leon's letter drew a glowing picture of the commercial, financial, strategic, and political advantages of such a line, and contained an application for permission to form an Ottoman Company to carry out the project under a Concession for ninety-nine years, and with a kilometre guarantee of £ F. 850. The scheme appeared to have attracted the Sultan's attention, for Sir N. O'Connor subsequently learnt that an Irade had been issued authorizing an engineer named Zabrowski, representing a French group of capitalists, to undertake preliminary surveys for the line. Sir N. O'Connor thinks that it would be useful to have information as to whether the scheme would be likely to receive serious financial support in Paris, and suggests that some British firm of standing connected with such enterprises should be placed in possession of the facts.

General.—(See paragraph 13 of the Memorandum for January 1906.) The allowance received from the Oudh Bequest by Mirza Fazelullah Masindarani, Mujtahid of Karbala, has been discontinued from the month of November 1905.

At the request of the Italian Consul-General at Calcutta, Baron Airoldi de Robbiate, an Italian cavalry officer, who is going to Mesopotamia to obtain horses for the Italian Government, has been granted letters of introduction from the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department to His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, Bagdad, and to His Majesty's Consul at Bussorah.

Vice-Consul S. M. Hussain is reported to have started on his yearly visit to Mecca.

PERSIAN GULF.

17. Muscat.—(Vide paragraph 20 of Memorandum for January 1906.) The Political Agent at Muscat wrote on the 24th January, 1906, and explained that the ill-health of the prisoners was not in any way caused by severe treatment, but was due simply to the fact that confinement for any length of time is of itself sufficient to break the spirit of the desert Arab and destroy his health.

18. (Vide paragraph 15 of the Memorandum for January 1906.) The Political Agent at Muscat wrote on the 12th February stating that a change had taken place recently in the attitude of M. Laronce. He had hitherto been very friendly to the British Government, but he now seemed desirous of favouring the extension of foreign commerce to the detriment of British. The change might be ascribed to an intention on the part of the French Government to strengthen their position in Oman so as to be able to keep us as strictly as possible to the mutual declaration of 1862 in connection with the Sultan's independence.

On the 22nd February, the Secretary of State replied to the telegram from the Government of India dated 2nd January regarding the interpretation of the Award.

As regards points 1 and 2, His Majesty's Government agreed with the views of the Government of India. As regards point 3, they agreed that any subject of the Sultan should be regarded as coming under Muscat jurisdiction as soon as he landed in Oman, but stated that if the Omani belonging to a French protected dhow were accused of crime on the high seas, no objection could be taken to his transshipment, without being landed, to some French port for trial, and that it would not be reasonable to object if the accused were landed temporarily merely in order to enable the French Consul to make arrangements for effecting this. Objection would, however, be taken to such an Omani being tried at Muscat by the French Consul. The Secretary of State requested that Major Grey might be instructed to inform the French Consul of the conclusions arrived at by His Majesty's Government on the above points, and to endeavour to effect a settlement on the lines laid down.

As regards Major Grey's proposal that the question of a British protectorate over Muscat should be raised in connection with the negotiations, His Majesty's Government considered that it would be useless to approach the French Government in the matter, and directed that instructions against raising the question should be conveyed to Major Grey.

19. (Vide paragraph 19 of the Memorandum for January, 1906.) A large consignment of over 3,000 rifles and a considerable amount of ammunition was landed at Kowet from two native craft during the month of January. Major Grey telegraphed on the 10th February, 1906, that he had been informed by the French Consul that the greater portion of the arms shipped at Muscat for Mekran during the cold season had been sent to the Caucasus for the Mahomedan insurgents. A report as to the route by which these arms were supposed to have reached the Caucasus has been called for from the Political Agent in the Persian Gulf. Major Grey also wrote on the 5th February, 1906, that the presence of His Majesty's ship "Redbreast" off the Mekran coast had checked the export of arms from Muscat during the past month to Mekran ports. M. M. Kevorkoff et Cie. had also complained to the Agency dragoman that their trade in arms had been hindered by the position taken up by the "Redbreast," and Afghan depositors were claiming a return of the money deposited by them for the supply of arms with Ali Musa Khan and M. Goguyer.

20. (Vide paragraph 13 of Memorandum for December 1905.) Major Grey wrote on the 6th February stating that the Sultan of Muscat had of late been raising numerous small loans against future payments of customs duty. In two cases his creditors were M. Goguyer and M. M. Kevorkoff et Cie. M. Goguyer had offered to lend the Sultan a substantial sum at a moderate rate of interest. Major Cox telegraphed on the 9th February that, since His Majesty's Government saw objections to raising the question of the reorganization of the Muscat Customs on the basis of a substantial loan, in his opinion, it would be advisable to make a loan of 20,000 rupees unconditionally in order to avoid a financial crisis, rather than that the Award negotiations should be concluded hastily at the cost of a sacrifice.

21. The Political Resident in the Persian Gulf telegraphed on the 19th January that eleven Gwadar subjects of the Sultan of Muscat, forming the crew of a registered British Indian dhow, were suspected of having sold en route part of the cargo of the dhow consigned to a subject of the Sheikh of Bahrein, and that the latter had asked the Political Agent to deal with the case. Captain Pridesux considered the men

between the Trucial Chiefs and the British Government, but said that with the Turks in their present position it would be impossible for him to do so. Captain Prévost thinks that the stronger ambition of the Arab family next to the establishment of their independence from British rule and the British Government the necessity of Great Britain to the hands of the Chief of the British. Since this remark, to the Chief of the British, that the Turks were so strong to establish a Major agent in the British Government. Captain Prévost thinks that if the British are ever a leader to settle themselves at Zanzibar or any other point on the coast, on half of the peninsula the Turks will follow them there and their grasp on the whole Peninsula will be tightened.

27. (Fide paragraph 27 of Memorandum for January 1906.) The report of the murder of Sheikh Ahmed by a Beni Hafir Bedouin. His service has not been confirmed. On the way to the west of the murder the cause of the difficulty is that we have reported to Sheikh Ismail's camp to express their regret and to have a good to be sent to my satellite prisoners. The Chief says that he reported every day and was of his life started with 100 men, a part of the number and that if they succeeded in killing him and the wife of his family, the town would be freed. They do not want to be far from the truth. There is a trust that it is never to the effect that in revenge for the murder in their camp of Sheikh Ahmed his name is Sheikh Saad. I shall the Chief of Marhabah in Sheikh Ismail's camp. It is proved to be true, it is anticipated that there will be considerable unrest in Kutr. Major Cox has instructed Captain Dobbie to be on the watch for any signs of trouble.

Major Cox has instructed Captain Phillips to keep a close watch on the situation and to maintain vigilance in regard to Odoid.

The Government of India have approved of these instructions.

[illegible]

29. A Persian subject residing in Bahrain having committed an offence on board a British ship in Bahrain Hapson, the Secretary of State has asked for the views of the Government and has now the case is brought with. It is reported that the Agent who has any power to try the case is, considering that the offender served two years imprisonment. The Secretary of State is drawn to the fact that the matter may be raised by the question of jurisdiction with the Persian Government. The matter is now under consideration.

The matter is now under consideration.

80. *Mining*. The report of the Ministry for January, 1916, contains the following information: "The first of the proposed projects of His Majesty the Shah of Persia for the 'Sponsoring Exploration Syndicate' has been received."

The chief conditions of the grant are the following:—

(1) The Syndicate are to have the exclusive right to exploit the springs for a period of fifty years.

(2) The Concession extends from Pao to Gwetter, including all the islands belonging to Persia, on the clear understanding that the limits of the CONCESSIO

3. The Syndicate are to pay to the Persian Government 15000 on the grant of the concession, and a sum of 50000 or, every 200 pounds of surplus exported abroad or reported for sale into Persia, after expiry of thirty years from the date of the grant the Syndicate are to pay an additional fixed annual rent of 3000.

(4) Machinery &c. required for the fishery operations is to be passed free of customs duty

* An export duty is not charged on spices but customs duty according to the tariff of the day is to be paid on imports of spices, Persia.

(b) Foreign workmen are to be employed as far as possible. Foreign employees must be Greeks, and the number must be limited to the minimum necessary for the industry.

31. (Vide paragraph 32 of Memorandum for January 1906.) Dr. Theodore Tilton visited Cheyenne on the 17 February and returned St. Louis, Mo., Secretary told him were out of French in the Foreign Department. The views of the Government in France as to question of granting a mortgage and as to the purchase of the land, the Secretary said that the Personal staff were expected to plan.

He also explained that his proposal to build a cordoning station for the first time at that place was a positive method for the prevention of being taken off their feet, and especially for the view of future emergencies. On a present, but perhaps he was disposed to look that a quadrilateral station at the mouth of the canal was necessary, and that proper arrangements at Bussard and Marath were would be preferable to a station on Hunjam or Hormuz. Should he find reason for any material alteration of his views, he promised to communicate personally with the Government of India again before returning to Europe.

2. The steamer left Bombay on the 2nd February for the Persian Gulf. The Royal Italian Mail steamer "I wia" was at Captain Corb's disposal. It was necessary to board the steamer "I wia" at Muscat. In the course of a tour of visit to the coast, but which was only a brief one, as a possible opportunity was not lost. His Majesty's Secretary of State had previously on the 7th February that the Foreign Office preferred not to inform the Government of the Museum or to deprive the Government of the steamer "I wia" on the 2nd February for the Secretary of State to request that Dr. Thomas should visit the steamer "I wia" on the 2nd February. It was essential to the completeness of the Museum; and that, in the latter event, he might be with the Commander of the despatch boat on the pretext of paying the local authorities a complimentary visit. These instructions have been communicated to Dr. Thomas.

(Signed) R. E. HOLLAND.

Calcutta, March 1, 1906.

certain Arabs who were included in the Agreement signed at London on the 13th May 1904, regarding the Zanzibari dhow-owners. These natives were, indeed, wrongfully claimed by the Sultan of Muscat as his subjects, and it was advisable to guard against any incident arising in the future with regard to them

I am, &c.
(signed) EDWARD GREY

[13397]

No. 9

India Office to Foreign Office.—Received April 20

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 15th March, relative to the Muscat Arbitration Award

India Office, April 19, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9

Major Grey to Government of India

(Telegraphic.) P.
FOLLOWING sent to Major Cox to-day

Muscat, March 5, 1906

"Please refer to my letter dated the 22nd January regarding the Muscat Award examination."

Inclosure 2 in No. 9

Major Grey to Government of India

(Telegraphic.) P.
FOLLOWING sent to Major Cox to-day

Muscat, March 8, 1906.

Please see my telegram of the 5th March regarding Muscat Arbitration. There seems to be no doubt that certain owners are shown in the list as possessing more dhows than they actually do possess. French Consul agreed this, but he may have been imposed upon. Should the Sultan of Muscat send a special Envoy to inquire from the owners, they will probably decline to give details, as they did before. In my opinion the Sultan should go himself, and inquire personally, pressing the owners for a full statement. If I have no objection it would be a good thing for me to accompany him. Please send me instructions as soon as possible

[13404]

No. 10.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 20.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 15th March, relative to Ibn Saood's alleged intention to visit Northern Oman.

India Office, April 19, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10

Major Cox to Government of India.

(Confidential.)

Bushire, February 2, 1906.

Agent, Koweit, on the subject of Ibn Saood's alleged intention to visit Northern Co.

1. Sheikh Mubarak's suggestion that Ibn Saood's overtures to the Sheikhs of the Trucial Coast, in connection with the recent disturbances from Nejd affairs, which I am addressing by this mail to Government, it will be apparent that his position in Nejd is so unsettled at present that he is unable to do so.

2. At the same time I see no objection to the issue of the admonition recommended.

3. In regard to Sheikh Mubarak's attitude, it seems possible that his no doubt, that the latter is less inclined than before to be guided by the Sheikh of Koweit's advice in his relations with the Porte.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Captain Knox to Major Cox

Koweit, February 3, 1906.

1. I met Ibn Saood yesterday morning, and, of his own accord, introduced this topic of conversation, and informed me that he had written to Ibn Saood on the subject. He again assured me that he had every hope that the visit would not come off, and that Ibn Saood's only object was money.

2. This uncalled for return to the subject suggests to me that Sheikh Mubarak has strong objections to Ibn Saood being served by any port but Koweit, and that we may reckon on Sheikh Mubarak's support in this matter.

Inclosure 3 in No. 10.

Major Cox to Government of India

(Confidential.)

Bushire, February 23, 1906.

1. In my report, dated the 30th January, 1906, I have the honour to furnish you with the following information.

2. On the 12th instant, I received a communication from the Political Agent, Bahrain, who had arrived at Bahrain via K. Bida, and had called at the Agency. He informed Captain Pringle that Ibn Saood had arrived at K. Bida, and then wished to enter into Treaty relations with us, allowing us, if we desired, to keep a Political Officer in Haam or Kafil in return for our protecting him from a sea attack from the Turks.

3. Captain Pringle expressed his personal doubts as to whether Ibn Saood was a genuine disappointed man, saying that he intended to proceed to Bushire by the next mail, for medical treatment.

4. On the same date three Nejd Arabs arrived in Bushire, and I had their move-

ments watched, as reported in Political Diary for the week ending the 18th February, 1906. They proved to be Musaad-bin-Sawedim and two companions. They stayed with Najaf-bin-Ghalib, the Koweiti merchant living in Bushire, and on the 18th instant they sent a long and expensive telegram to His Majesty the Sultan in Romanized Arabic, of which I attach a translation. It will be seen that it actually purports to come from Sheikh Jasim-bin-Thani, but was evidently sent on behalf of, and in communication with, Ibn Saood.

5. With reference to the first-named veteran, it is interesting to note that at the end of the telegram, as transliterated for delivery to the telegraph office, he describes himself as follows:

"I am Mekam Kaze Kafir ve reise ashayerna ve kebayelleha al abduandek Jassim al-Sani."

I am doubtful whether this is intended to mean:

"Kaim M. Kaim of the Kaze of Kafir and Chief of its clans and tribes, the faithful slave Jassim al-Thani."

"Kaim M. Kaim and Kazi of Kafir and Chief of its clans and tribes, the faithful slave Jassim al-Thani."

Whichever it be, Sheikh Jasim poses as the humble slave of His Majesty the Sultan, whereas, in a letter to the Political Agent, Bahrain, which must have been written about the same time as the above telegram, he rather went out of his way to mention the fact that he considered himself subject to Sheikh Essa of Bahrain.

6. The position seems to be that Ibn Saood is exasperated by the neglect of the Turks to suppress Ibn Rashid, and that he (Ibn Saood) and Sheikh Jasim, whose sympathies are with him, are sitting on the hedge at present, and apparently sent this representative, Musaad-bin-Sawedim, with instructions to sound the British Representative in the first place, and, if he received no encouragement from the latter, to proceed to Bushire and send the above telegram to the Sultan.

7. My informant tells me that the Arabs expected to receive their reply via Haamurah, and it was therefore no use their remaining here longer. They left again for Bahrain on the 21st instant, and I may mention that they did not visit the Residency during their stay in Bushire.

8. I am forwarding a copy of this communication to His Majesty's Consul, Haamurah, for information.

Inclosure 4 in No. 10

Translation of a telegram dispatched in Romanized Arabic to His Majesty the Sultan, Constantinople, from Bushire, by a Representative of Ibn Saood and Sheikh Jasim-bin-Thani, on the 18th February, 1906.

To His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, Commander of the Faithful. May God uphold his Imperial Throne with glory and victory.

WHEREAS my devotion, honesty, sincerity, friendliness, zeal, and sense of honour do not allow me to discontinue tendering advice to my religion, my Government, and my country, which they are accepted in fact, a petition was previously made by the loyal slaves, suggesting the undesirability of employing a body of Imperial troops.

1. Saood - a course for which there was no necessity. Yet of my advice is now apparent, as also are the disturbances caused by interested persons who are unable to derive profit in cash, money, or opportunity, except by creating difficulties and troubles like these under reference.

2. Indeed, I stated my opinion on the occurrence of each incident which I considered harmful to the Turkish Empire and to its faith and its subjects, and which emanated from the hands of the said Abdul Aziz-bin-Rashid.

3. He passed into the hands of the said Abdul Aziz-bin-Rashid.

4. He massacred the Faithful and plundered their property, he put men to death and killed children, and disturbance became general in the country, and the lawless Arabs were encouraged to infest the roads and highways along which the dependents of the Government dwelt.

5. When things came to this pass, pious men, seeing the harm suffered by Mussulmans came forward and advised Ibn Saood to ward off difficulties which befell them in their worry plight. Accordingly, Ibn Saood arose and joined them. He expelled the evil-doers and wicked persons, and secured tranquility to the country and people excellent behaviour and high character, and by his righteous services to the

Lord, the Commander of the Faithful, and the successor of the Prophet of God of the world, and protects all the roads, and all the people testify to this. His is beloved by everybody in general. Ibn Saood has indeed repeatedly invoked favour, saying that he is an obedient servant of the Commander of the Faithful, and that he is neither schismatic nor a rebel. On the other hand, according to what I hear, Ibn Khashid ceases not to supply material for suspicion to interested persons, and to give them bribes with a view to their making misrepresentations and accusations; and therefore all the Mussulmans beseech the Great Lord and Commander of the Faithful not to listen to the statements of such interested persons who are the enemies of the State and of the Faith, and who are liars and false accusers. Similarly, I pray that this, my country, may not be treated with indifference, and the order and command rest with His Majesty; and may peace rest upon Mahomed and his family.

From Kaim Mukam 1, 2, Kaim of the Kaza, of Kair and Chief of its clans and tribes.

JASIM-AL-THANI

(13409)

No. 11.

India Office to Foreign Office — (Received April 20.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 8th March, relative to the arrival at Mufana of a Turkish Revenue official and the consequent unrest among the tribesmen on the British side of the border within Mansuri limits.

India Office, April 19, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Government of Bombay to Government of India

(Confidential.)

Bombay Castle February 15, 1906.

IN continuation of my letter dated the 9th February last, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter from the Political Resident, Aden, dated the 4th February last and of its inclosures, which caused amongst the members of the Shujah tribe who reside on the British side of the border and within Mansuri limits.

2. I am at the same time to state that any remarks which the Bombay Government may desire to make on these papers will be communicated to the Government of India hereafter.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

Major-General Mason to Government of Bombay

WITH reference to my letter forward, for the further information of Government, copies of letters received during the course of the week, from the Abdali Sultan, the Mansuri Sheikh, the Shaikh Darwish Battash, the Dabken and Sheikh Seld-al-Jorabi.

3. From these it will appear that local excitement in the vicinity of Mufana is still being fanned by parties from the border. It would at the same time appear that there is a possibility of trouble again arising after the forthcoming Id. And it seems that dues are actually still collected at the post of Al Doka by certain Arabs nominally, if not actually, on behalf of the Turks.

5. Under these circumstances it may be held desirable to address the Turkish authorities with a view to the withdrawal of their subjects from the post of Al Doka, and the careful avoidance of any form of encroachment on Shajafi and Shaabi lands, situated on the British side of the border. If desired, I can, of course, myself make the necessary communication to the Mutesarrif of Taiz, through the Vice-Consul of Hodeida, and this would, in such cases, seem a convenient course to follow.

4. In regard to the small border disputes which occasionally arise on the Amiri border, it has hitherto been the practice for the Political Officer at Duala to occasionally correspond direct with the Kaimakam of Kataba, and direct correspondence between local officials may frequently prove the most expeditious and the most convenient way of settling disputes of this nature.

5. If desired, intimation can, of course, be conveyed to the Shaabi Sheikh that he should himself take steps to effectively occupy the post of Al Doka, and to prevent the collection of dues there, but the peaceable withdrawal of Turkish subjects from that post would seem a desirable preliminary.

6. Of course, should Government decide that the Subebi country should be toured in by a Political Officer, as has been previously suggested, the settlement of the affairs of Shaab could be made one of his first objectives.

Inclosure 3 in No. 11.

Sheikh Abdulkawi-bin-Mohamed to Major-General Mason.

(Compliments.)

[Undated]

I beg to represent to Your Majesty's exalted Government that, after the news of the alarm to which the people of Shaab were subjected by the Kobati and after a letter was received from Ahmed Fadhl informing them (people of Shaab) to remain in their houses, not to interfere with the Turkish soldiers or their subjects, that they are admitted under the protection of the British Government, and that, if they should desire to do so, they may go to the British side of the border and represent the case to the Resident of Aden. They consequently were pacified, and enthusiastically prayed for your Government; they praised God and thanked Him for the same.

As to my personal relations by the Grace of God, all the people from Taiz to the gate of Aden, the Kaimakam of the Hujaria, and all the Sayads and Sheikhs, are my friends. I have been speaking unfavourably of the Turks and eulogizing the British Government. I have no enemy except three men; two are Kobati and an Abasi, who is the Akil of the Ta'arita. He and the Arari were the cause of the Darcja incident. He wrote to them (Darcja people) to proclaim religious war, which they did, I went to the Kaimakam in connection with this matter; therefore I incurred the displeasure of Mohamed Nasir, and Fari Ayedih, who conspired against the Sha'bi, and caused the seizure of forty loads of bows belonging to them, for the redemption of which we had to pay 1,000 dollars. Eventually Mohamed Nasir was taken to Sana'a.

This was the cause of the enmity between the Abasi, Kobati, and myself; the rest of the people, however, always come to me for advice, and are anxious to find out if there is any way of getting them admitted to the protection of the British Government. I am telling them to be patient.

When the survey party arrived at Wadi Ma'adin I informed Mr. FitzMaurice and his friends that Wadi Shaab was within the Subebi country. Mustafa Rens and the military Lieutenant-Colonel then asked me to show proofs to that effect, and I had produced documentary proofs. These incidents had intensified the hostility of the Kobati against me. For three months I was in prison, and 115 dollars were recovered from Shaab. While I was in prison the Kobatis and Abasi were informed that Shaab was within the British limit, nevertheless they ironically sent word to me to say "Bring the Kobillas" (meaning Aden troop swords) "to remove us from Shaab."

The Kobati has been illegally using my lands, which he still retained, in spite of the order issued from Taiz forbidding him from encroaching on my lands.

I now beseech the illustrious British Government to adopt some measures regarding the Kobati, or that I might be allowed to fight for my right.

The custom-post question may not be forgotten, as it is the cause of trouble to the people of Shaab daily.

(1639)

D

Inclosure 4 in No. 11.

Sultan Sir Ahmed Fudhi to Major-General Mason.

4 *At. Hün.* 1398 *Flora* 93 1904

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[Faint musical notation]

When I was young, my father used to tell me that the Mohammedans were the best people in the world. They were kind and generous and they loved their country. But now I know that they are all different. Some are good and some are bad. I have seen many of them who are very cruel and wicked. I have also seen many who are very kind and generous. It is hard to say which is better.

I am a Muslim and I believe in Allah. I believe that He has created everything and that He is the most powerful being in the universe. I believe that He will judge us all at the end of time. I believe that we should live our lives according to His commands and that we should love Him above all else.

I am proud to be a Muslim and I am proud to be from Egypt. I am proud of my culture and my traditions. I am proud of my family and my friends. I am proud of my country and its people. I am proud of everything that makes me who I am.

I hope that you will find this book interesting and helpful. I hope that it will give you a better understanding of the Muslims of Egypt. I hope that it will help you to see them as individuals rather than as a group. I hope that it will help you to appreciate their culture and their traditions. I hope that it will help you to understand why they do what they do.

I am sure that you will find much to learn from this book. I am sure that you will find it to be a valuable addition to your library. I am sure that you will find it to be one of the best books that you have ever read.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will want to read again and again. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will recommend to others. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will treasure forever.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with pleasure and interest. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with pride and joy. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with love and devotion.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with faith and hope. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with courage and strength. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with wisdom and understanding.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with peace and harmony. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with unity and brotherhood. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with love and compassion.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with kindness and gentleness. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with patience and tolerance. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with forgiveness and mercy.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with humility and modesty. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with simplicity and plainness. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with honesty and integrity.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with sincerity and truthfulness. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with loyalty and devotion. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with respect and honor.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with dignity and nobility. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with grace and elegance. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with beauty and charm.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with wit and humor. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with intelligence and insight. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with knowledge and wisdom.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with power and authority. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with influence and impact. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with significance and importance.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with meaning and purpose. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with value and worth. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with glory and honor.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with fame and reputation. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with wealth and prosperity. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with success and achievement.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with happiness and joy. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with contentment and satisfaction. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with fulfillment and completion.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with peace and tranquility. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with calmness and serenity. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with stillness and silence.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with love and affection. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with friendship and companionship. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with family and kinship.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with community and fellowship. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with solidarity and support. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with unity and cooperation.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with justice and fairness. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with equity and balance. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with righteousness and morality.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with goodness and virtue. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with excellence and perfection. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with greatness and grandeur.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with majesty and splendor. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with glory and honor. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with praise and admiration.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with awe and wonder. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with amazement and astonishment. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with excitement and enthusiasm.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with passion and fervor. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with zeal and ardor. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with intensity and vigor.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with energy and dynamism. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with power and force. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with strength and resilience.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with courage and bravery. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with valor and heroism. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with gallantry and chivalry.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with nobility and refinement. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with sophistication and elegance. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with taste and discernment.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with intellect and reason. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with logic and analysis. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with critical thinking and problem-solving.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with creativity and imagination. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with innovation and originality. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with artistic expression and inspiration.

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I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with spirit and soul. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with heart and mind. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with body and spirit.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with essence and core. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with identity and selfhood. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with individuality and uniqueness.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with authenticity and genuineness. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with honesty and transparency. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with openness and vulnerability.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with trust and confidence. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with belief and faith. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with conviction and certainty.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with commitment and dedication. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with loyalty and allegiance. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with devotion and worship.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with service and sacrifice. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with generosity and giving. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with kindness and compassion.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with love and care. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with affection and tenderness. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with warmth and comfort.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with safety and security. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with protection and defense. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with shelter and refuge.

I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with health and well-being. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with vitality and energy. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with longevity and endurance.

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I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with authenticity and genuineness. I am sure that you will find it to be a book that you will read with honesty

[illegible]

I pray that you will continue to pray for me. If you will write even a line to the home, &c.,
 a letter addressed to the National Council, 1000 Broadway, New York, N. Y., will be most welcome.
 We are all well and hope you are the same. We are all very much interested in you and
 will see you victory against all enemies. We remain, dear friends, ever your affectionate
 prayers for you.

at other times rob from the Shaab. We now need your rifles, etc.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

$$N = \{1, 2, \dots, N\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{N} = \{1, 2, \dots, N\} \quad \text{with} \quad N = 1, 2, \dots, N$$
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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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approve of the same

May you be preserved

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Sei $f_1 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{x^2} = \frac{1}{2} x^{-2}$ und $f_2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{x^3} = \frac{1}{2} x^{-3}$ in $M_{\text{loc}}(0)$

[illegible]

We proceeded thence and inquired about the cause of the invitation. He replied that whoever was a friend and helper to the British Government, he must garrison and defend the frontier of the said Government. We said we cannot do so without order from Government. He therefore showed us a letter from you, addressed to Sheikh Shahir in the month of Ramathan, purporting that Shaab was under the protection of the great Government. We thereupon acquiesced and garrisoned the borders of the frontier. Sheikh Ahmed No'man arrived on the 28th Al K'ida, on behalf of the Sublime Porte, and we have mutually come to an understanding that each of us should represent the matter to his own Government. In conclusion, we do not know the limit of the Government. We know only the extent of our own territory, so we were afraid to venture at a thing which might not be satisfactory to Government. Hence we represent the matter to you, lest we should get into trouble. We request your answer, on which we may rely.

Salutation.

Inclosure 9 in No. 11

Sheikh Saeed Al Jorahi to Major-General Mason.

(After compliments.)

[Undated]

WE inform your Honour, in connection with the previous news regarding the Turkish Government on the border, that their (?) has on Sunday last been withdrawn to the Upper Mufalin, after the interview which was held.

All the tribes, who were encamped on the edge of the border, have also returned to their respective homes. On the 5th Al Hija (30th January, 1906). Sheikh Saleh-bin-Ahmed, the Mansuri, has also gone back to his house.

It is alleged by the people that the Turks will come again after the Id.

[13410]

No. 12.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 20.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 8th March, relative to Katr affairs.

India Office, April 19, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Government of India to Major Cox.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Fort William, March 2, 1906.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st January 1906, forwarding reports from Captain Prideaux regarding Katr affairs, and announcing the death of Sheikh Ahmed bin-Thani.

2. In reply, I am to say that the Government of India approve of the instructions mentioned in paragraph 2 of your letter which you have submitted to Captain Prideaux for his guidance.

3. I am further to say that Captain Prideaux's reports have been read with interest, but that the Government are of opinion that it would have been more prudent if he had refrained from referring to the question of a Treaty in the terms reported in the preceding paragraph of his report of the 2nd December 1905. I am to request that, should you see no objection, Captain Prideaux may be informed accordingly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. E. HOLLAND,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12

Major Cox to Government of India.

Bahrein, January 31, 1906

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copies of the communications which I have received from the Political Agent, Bahrein, regarding Katr affairs.

The first contains an account of a visit paid by Captain Prideaux to the tents of Sheikh Jasim bin-Thani, a certain distance from the Katr, and executed, as well as with a view to collecting information for the "Gazetteer" now under preparation. It will, I think, be interesting to Government on general grounds.

The second treats of a separate interview which the Political Agent had during the same excursion with the other brother, Sheikh Ahmed-bin-Thani.

This report throws a good deal of useful light on the position in Al Katr, and on that of the Thani family in relation to Turkey, and it is a matter for regret that since it was penned a rumour has been received, and is now corroborated, of the murder of Sheikh Ahmed by one of his own Arab retainers.

2. I am instructing Captain Prideaux to keep himself and me closely informed with regard to any change in the position which may result from the death of Sheikh Ahmed, and to maintain vigilance in regard to Odoid, the suggested inclination of the Turks to again attempt to place a Mudir there, and the apparent ambition of the Bin Thani family to occupy it.

Beyond this the report seems to call for no special comment from me at the present juncture.

3. The case of Nasir-bin-Mubarak is being dealt with separately in another communication of to-day's date.

Inclosure 3 in No. 12

Captain Prideaux to Major Cox.

Bahrein, December 23, 1905.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report, giving an account of my visit last month to Sheikh Jasim and Ahmed-bin-Thani of Katr.

2. My ostensible object was to record the evidence of Sheikh Jasim under a Commission received from the High Court of Bombay in connection with a civil suit between Sheikh Esm-bin-Khalifa and Abdul Aziz-bin-Abdul Latif Moosharf. Both the litigants are well-known pearl merchants, and their families originally came from Bahrein. I had also previously written to the Sheikh that I was anxious to purchase a horse for Government service, and that there were various commercial cases between British subjects and residents of, or refugees to, Bid'a which I wished to discuss.

3. I started from Manama in a native sailing-boat ("mashuwa") at 2 A.M. on the 8th November, taking with me the Agency Interpreter, Mr. Inam-ul-Hak, the Probationer Munshi Mirza Abdul Rasool, a non-commissioned officer, and five millemen of my guard and the agents of the two parties to the civil suit.

4. We reached Lual at 11 A.M. on the 9th November, but found Sheikh Jasim's son-disent fort locked up and quite deserted except for a negro slave and his family, who acted as caretakers of the place. The Sheikh was reported to be in camp 12 miles away in the interior, and I therefore was compelled to write and ask him to send some one to meet me, and to allow me to see his fort. The Sheikh's camels and donkeys appeared on the following morning, and we reached Bu Hasa, our destination, at 2 P.M.

5. At Lual, with the exception of two or three mud huts at the back of the fort, which are doubtless the abodes of some of the Sheikh's servants, there is nothing in the nature of a settled village. At about half-a-mile distant, however, along the coast there was a large cluster of black Bedouin tents, whose occupants appeared to be more numerous than those of the fort. I imagine that the families of these people remain here generally throughout the year.

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whether they would consent to a friendly Colony from Bahrain living there. For the immediate future I doubted very much whether such a permission would be given.

5. After some further talk on various subjects, and in particular on recent events in Bahrain in connection with the deportation of Sheikh Ali-bin-Ahmed, I at last remarked that I supposed that our recent acts had caused my host to change his views about the desirability of a Treaty with the Government of India similar to those of the Trucial Chiefs. Sheikh Ahmed replied that he would be glad to have such a Treaty, but with the Turks in their present position how could he make one? Would we drive them out of Bid'a for him? To this I answered that the British and Turkish Governments were on friendly terms, and that nothing of the sort could be effected except by diplomacy.

6. I felt considerable surprise and at the same time some relief that Sheikh Ahmed should be found in this frame of mind, believing as I do that it is an extremely difficult matter for us to evict the Turks from Bid'a. I had been under the impression that Sheikh Ahmed knew my predecessor Mr. Gaskin well, but I learnt that he had only once met him in Colonel Meade's time on board the Royal Indian mail steamer "Lawrence" off Wakra.

7. After my return to Bahrain I sent for Abdul Rahman Wazzan, Sheikh Ahmed-bin-Thani's Agent here, and asked him to tell me how Sheikh Ahmed had come to ask for British protection of Mr. Gaskin. The Agent informed me that Sheikh Ahmed's request had been for permission to form a Settlement at Odeid. Mr. Gaskin had told the Agent that this would never be permitted, and inquired whether Zubara would not be considered an equally acceptable place, to which the Agent had replied in the affirmative.

8. In Mr. Gaskin's letter dated the 22nd March, 1902, to your address, it will be observed that nothing is stated to show that Sheikh Ahmed was aware that the offer of residence at Zubara was being contemplated for him, and I feel very doubtful whether his Agent Abdul Rahman Wazzan ever did more than to tell him that he would be allowed to settle at Odeid. The discovery that Sheikh Ahmed-bin-Thani made to me the other day, that he believed the Turks were shortly going to appoint a Mudir again at Odeid, acquires a greater significance from this discovery, and it seems to me that the strongest ambition of the Thani family, next to the establishment of their independence from both Turks and British in Bid'a, is to wrest the possession of Odeid once more from the hands of the Chief of Abu Dhab.

9. In my humble opinion, if the Thani family are ever allowed to settle themselves at Zubara or any other point in the northern half of the peninsula, the Turks will only the more insistently follow them there, and their grasp on the Katr Peninsula will be proportionately tightened.

Inclosure 5 in No. 12.

Captain Prideaux to Major Cox

Bahrain, December 30, 1905.

WITH reference to this Office diary entry dated the 22nd December, 1905, I have the honour to report that the rumour of the death of Sheikh Ahmed bin-Thani of Bid'a is now universally believed in Bahrain to be correct.

2. Owing to the stormy weather which has prevailed during the last three weeks, communication between Katr and Bahrain has been almost entirely suspended; two or three boats have, however, arrived here, and there can no longer be much doubt that the Chief was shot dead by one of his own servants, who belonged to the Makhadhhaba section of the Beni Hajir. It is reported that, on hearing of the news, the Elders of the Beni Hajir all repaired to Sheikh Jasim-bin-Thani's camp to express their regret, and that they threw down their arms before him, offering to submit to any suitable punishment.

3. A Beni Hajir tribesman who has recently arrived in this island from Dhabharan has stated that the murderer and his relatives are seeking refuge in that district.

It seems probable that the culprit will in due time meet with punishment unless the Ajman tribe give him shelter.

4. A fresh report, which requires confirmation, is to the effect that in revenge

for the murder of the servant of Sheikh Ahmed bin-Thani, his married Sheikh, Salim-bin-Saif, the Chief of the Makhadhhaba in Sheikh Jasim bin-Thani's area. If this is actually the case there would seem to be a probability of considerable unrest in the Katr Peninsula.

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No. 13.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 30.)

The Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 8th March, relative to Bahrain affairs.

India Office, April 19, 1906

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Government of India to Major Cox.

(Confidential)

Fort William, March 2, 1906.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 21st January, and to inform you that the Government of India may intervene in order to effect a reconciliation between himself and the Sheikh.

2. In reply, I am to say that the Government of India approve your proposal that an answer should be sent to Nasir-bin-Mubarak on the lines indicated in paragraph 3 of your letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. E. HOLLAND,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Major Cox to Government of India.

(Confidential)

Bushire, January 21, 1906.

WITH reference to Foreign Department letter dated the 17th May, 1905, I have the honour to forward, for the consideration of the Government of India, copy of a communication received from the Political Agent at Bahrain, which gives cover to a representation from Sheikh Eas's outlawed cousin, Nasir-bin Mubarak, begging that the British Government will intervene in order to effect a reconciliation between himself and the Ruler of Bahrain.

For convenience of perusal, I have interpolated among the inclosures of Captain Prideaux's Report copied to the Government of India, a letter to me dated the 13th May last and of my letter dated the 13th June communicating my instructions to the Political Agent in regard thereto.

2. With such an ensanguined basis as it has, I am inclined to think that the hatred with which Sheikh Eas's cousin is regarded is too intense and bitter to admit of reconciliation, and that it would save us trouble rather to let matters remain as they are than to take action, which if it had the effect of making way for Nasir's return to Bahrain, would introduce into the Principality a probable element of unrest, a difficulty which does not now exist.

I am, however, of opinion that if the Government of India were to make an advance to Sheikh Eas, still more so would be the necessity for suitable pecuniary allowances which would be an effective means of securing his service.

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3. Primarily, therefore, I would be inclined to suggest that we continue to stand aloof from the matter, and do not consider they have sufficient grounds for intervening in order to press a reconciliation upon Sheikh Eesa, but that in saying this they wish in no way to discourage him from making such friendly efforts on his own behalf to arrive at a reconciliation with his cousin as may seem good to him.

4. If, however, in view of Nasir's friendly meeting and peaceable overtures to the British Government, and his benevolent attitude towards him, I see no great objection to our asking Sheikh Eesa if he would be prepared to entertain proposals for reconciliation if made through us. On the whole, however, I am inclined to doubt the practical wisdom of such a course.

Inclosure 3 in No. 13

Nasir-bin-Mubarak to Colonel Kemball.

(Translation.)

8 Rabi-ul-Awal, 1323 Hiji (May 1905)

I BEG to state the following for favour of your kind consideration and reply.

You are aware that I am of the Al Abdallah, and it is a matter of common knowledge that I have landed interests in Bahrein. The Turkish Government approached me, years ago, with the request that I should sell to them my rights in Bahrein, but that could not be arranged. Afterwards I thought that I should assail Bahrein, and decide by force of arms as to whose is the right of sovereignty in Bahrein.

But now, since I am assured that Bahrein has come under British protection, and I respect British authority, I have said true to all thoughts of assailing Bahrein. I submit that he has no right, and especially to usurp my rights over half of Bahrein.

I now beg to say that since your Government is a Government of justice and equity, I trust you will be able to do justice to my rights and privileges. Failing to achieve my object, I shall sell all my rights to the Turkish Government.

I hope you will kindly favour me with an early reply.

Inclosure 4 in No. 13.

Major Cox to Captain Prideaux.

Bahrein, June 13, 1905.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st June, enclosing translation of a letter from Nasir-bin-Mubarak to my address.

We are in receipt of Nasir-bin-Mubarak's letter, and I think the proper course is to ignore the letter and refuse to hold any communication with him.

In fact, I think it would be worth while your telling Sheikh Eesa now that you have received his letter, and adding that you mention the fact to him in case he can suggest any reason for the rebel writing to you now.

Presumably Sheikh Eesa knows his movements.

Inclosure 5 in No. 13

Captain Prideaux to Major Cox.

Bahrein, December 23, 1905

WITH reference to correspondence ending with your letter dated the 13th June, 1905,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 13th June, and I am glad to hear that you have received the letter from Nasir-bin-Mubarak, and that you have refused to hold any communication with him.

2. In the circumstances, I was much embarrassed last month at unexpectedly meeting Sheikh Nasir in his father-in-law, Sheikh Jasim-bin-Thani's camp at Bu Hasa, as my refusal to listen to him would have certainly annoyed my host. I decided, therefore, to give Sheikh Nasir some good advice, and I am glad to be able now to forward a translation of a letter, dated the 8th Shawwal, 1323 (the 3rd December, 1905), which the refugee has sent to me on the lines I suggested to him. I told Nasir distinctly that there was little chance of Government's pressing Sheikh Eesa to allow him to return to Bahrein, but that they would undoubtedly be glad to hear of the reconciliation, if it could be effected, and that submission on his part would, at any rate, perhaps benefit his descendants after Sheikh Eesa's decease. Sheikh Nasir met Sheikh Hamad in Doha a few weeks previous to this conversation, though I am not certain whether the interview was prearranged.

3. Sheikh Nasir is exactly the same age as Sheikh Eesa, but looks much stronger and younger. It has been our policy always to support Sheikh Eesa against Sheikh Nasir after the people had chosen the former for their Chief—Sheikh Eesa himself, as well as others, has related to me the story that the Government actually offered Nasir to the people of Bahrein as an alternative Ruler—but, according to his lights, Sheikh Nasir seems to have lived an honourable life, and I do not think that he is altogether undeserving of sympathy.

4. At the commencement of our interview the Sheikh told me that he only asked the British Government to stand neutral, and he would soon capture the islands; he would guarantee at the same time that no pillaging of private property would occur. I told him that the Government would not consent to such a proposal, and that they would not consent ever again to see the Government of the islands divided into two. I then asked him why he had never taken to piracy-dealing after the example of his father-in-law. On this Sheikh Jasim interposed with the remark that it would not be fitting for a Prince to engage in commerce. I have heard the same remark from lesser lights of the family in Bahrein.

5. On my return to Bahrein I explained to Sheikh Eesa the awkward circumstances in which I had been placed, and told him that I had not in any way sought the interview. I have said nothing about the receipt of the letter since from Sheikh Nasir as there are so many other more pressing matters under discussion with the Chief.

Inclosure 6 in No. 13

Captain Prideaux to Sheikh Eesa bin Ali

Bahrein, June 23, 1905.

(After compliments.)

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have recently received a letter from Nasir-bin-Mubarak, stating that he has something to communicate to me, and expressing a wish that I may meet him either in Katar or in Katif.

As Nasir-bin-Mubarak is your subject, and is in rebellion against you, I do not intend to hold any communication with him unless he makes his submission to you. Can you suggest any reason for his writing to me now?

Inclosure 7 in No. 13

Sheikh Eesa bin Ali to Captain Prideaux.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

10 Rabi-ul-Thani, 1323 H. (June 23, 1905).

I AM in receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and I feel extremely obliged to you for the regard you have shown to me in the case of the rebel Nasir-bin-Mubarak. It is quite the right thing that you propose to do, namely, to hold no correspondence with the said person, who is a notorious rebel, and who was the cause of the murder of my father, Sheikh Ali-bin-Khalifa, in 1296 H. Since that time he has declared himself in open rebellion against us, and has been an outlaw from Bahrein; I have never had any good feeling for him.

Inclosure 5 in No. 13

Sheikh Nasir-bin-Mubarak to Captain Prideaux

(After compliments.)

6 Shawwal, 1323 H. (December 3, 1905).

I BEG to say that I am anxious to be reconciled to the Chief of Bahrein, and to be allowed to live in the country of my ancestors. I have abandoned all hopes of recovering the heritage of my grandfather, and I submit to the decision of the British Government and of the people of Bahrein that there should be only one of the Al Khalifa as Ruler of Bahrein.

I wish only to reside in Bahrein as a subject of the Chief like the other members of the Al Khalifa. If the British Government will mediate and effect a reconciliation between me and my cousin Sheikh Esa-bin-Ali and will persuade the latter to bestow suitable allowances upon me and my brethren of the Al Abdallah section, I strictly bind myself to abandon all such ways as may result in mischief. I am not responsible for the events which under God's will occurred in the past, as I was young and a follower of Sheikh Muhammad-bin-Abdallah. I hope to God that a reconciliation will be effected between the Al Abdallah and the Al Selman, and that this may be achieved through the efforts of the British Government.

The order is yours, &c.

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No. 14.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 20.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 8th February, relative to the flying of the Union Jack in the Aden Hinterland.

India Office, April 19, 1906

Inclosure 1 in No. 14

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

Sir,

Bombay Castle, November 28, 1905.

I AM directed to submit, for the favourable consideration of the Government of India, a recommendation that the Political Officer at Dithala should be allowed to fly the Union Jack in the Aden Hinterland, where he is the Representative of Government.

2. The British flag carries influence and is known in the Aden Protectorate, and flags are given to some of the Chiefs to fly. I am therefore to request that the Government of India may be moved to accord sanction to the recommendation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. W. EDGERLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Government of India to Government of Bombay

Sir,

Fort William, February 8, 1906.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of the Hon. Sir S. W. Edgerley's letter dated the 28th November, 1905, recommending that the Political Officer at Dithala should be allowed to fly the Union Jack in the Aden Hinterland, where he is the Representative of Government.

2. The Government of India concur in the recommendation of the Bombay Government, but they are of opinion that, instead of issuing a special authorization enabling the Political Officer to fly a flag, it would be simpler to grant him the local rank of Political Agent, by notification in the Bombay Gazette, when he will, *ipso facto*, become entitled to the privilege in question. I am to inquire whether His Excellency the Viceroy is prepared to sanction this course.

3. I am also to draw attention to the fact that sanction has recently been accorded by the Government of India for the display of a flag over the fort at Dithala.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. E. HOLLAND,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

Inclosure 3 in No. 14.

Government of India to Lieutenant-General Commanding, Western Command.

Sir,

Fort William, December 15, 1905.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorandum dated the 1st November, 1905, recommending the issue of a Union Jack and flagstaff to each of the posts at Dithala, Saker, and Noh Dakh in the Aden Hinterland.

2. It appears that Saker and Noh Dakh are forts, while Dithala is a camp dominated by a fort. It is represented that it is desirable that the tribes in the hinterland should see and learn to respect the British flag.

3. In reply I am to say that the Government of India sanction the supply and replacement when worn out of a flag, uniform to feet by 3 feet, and a camp flagstaff, 46 feet, for each of the posts in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. T. KENNY,

Deputy Secretary to Government of India.

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No. 15.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 21.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a despatch to the Government of India, No. 15, Secret, dated 13th April, 1906, with inclosures, relative to the reported intention of Abdul Aziz-bin-Saood to visit the Pirate Coast and Oman.

India Office, April 20, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 15.

Mr. Morley to Governor-General the Earl of Minto.

(Secret)

My Lord

India Office, April 13, 1906.

I HAVE received the letter of your Excellency's Government in the Foreign Department, dated the 11th January last, informing me of the reported intention of the Wahabi Ameer Abdul Aziz-bin-Saood to visit the Pirate Coast and Oman, and of his threatened interference with the affairs of those districts.

2. In view of the serious consequences which would follow such action by the Ameer, you recommend that, in the event of his not giving satisfactory assurances as to his intentions, a warning should be addressed to him that any attempt on his part to interfere in Oman or along the Arab coast, either with the Chiefs or with their

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subjects, will be regarded as an unfriendly act, and that suitable measures will be taken to frustrate it.

3. I forward herewith, for the information and guidance of your Excellency's Government, a copy of correspondence* with the Foreign Office on the subject.

4. His Majesty's Government accept the view that a warning to the Ameer would be necessary if he were to carry out his reported intention. They consider, however, that it would be better that such warning should be conveyed to him only in the event of his appearing upon the coast, and that it should then be conveyed to him directly, as proposed by Sir N. O'Connor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORLEY.

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No. 16.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 30.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, a paraphrase of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 26th April, relative to the Muscat Arbitration Award.

India Office, April 30, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Mr. Morley to Government of India.

(Telegraphic.) P.
MUSCAT.

April 26, 1906.

What is present state of negotiations?

French Government are stated by French Minister to be very anxious His Majesty's Government should accept list of new owners offered to Major Grey on the 14th March, difficulties as to which are said to have been settled by negotiations between Grey and M. Laronce.

Names of certain Zanzibaris, regarding whom occurrence of incidents in future ought to be guarded against, and whom the Sultan of Muscat claimed wrongfully as his subjects, are also stated to be included.

In regard to these men, please see my telegram of 6th ultimo, and letter dated the 16th December, 1905, from Major Grey.

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No. 17.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 30.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, a paraphrase of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 29th instant, relative to Nejd affairs.

India Office, April 30, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 17.

Government of India to Mr. Morley.

(Telegraphic.) P.

April 29, 1906.

WE have received following telegram, dated the 25th April, from Resident, Persian Gulf, regarding affairs in N. A.

"News of surprise and annihilation of Bin Raahid and his immediate following by Bin Saood has been received by Sheikh of Mohammedrah in letter by special messenger from Sheikh of Kowest."

[15448]

No. 18.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 7.)

(No. 212.)

Constantinople, May 1, 1906.

Sir,
WITH reference to my despatch No. 189 of the 20th March, and to previous correspondence respecting the proposed visit of the Wahabi Emir to the Persian Coast at Oman, I have the honour to report that I have received telegrams from His Majesty's Acting Consul at Isfahan and His Majesty's Consul at Bassora, stating that news has been received by both places of fighting between Abdul Aziz bin Raahid of N. A. and the Wahabi Emir Abdul Aziz bin Saood in which the former and 250 of his followers have been killed.

In my despatch No. 373 of the 16th May, 1904, I drew attention to the serious consequences which might ensue if Ibn Saood succeeded in his object of conquering Hail, the stronghold of the Nejd Emirate, and re-establishing a Wahabi dynasty throughout the centre of Arabia; and if the present report of the defeat and death of Ibn Raahid prove true, the result can only be to enhance the importance of Ibn Saood and to oblige us to watch with greater care his relations with the Sheikh of Kowest and the Trucial Chiefs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. B. O'CONNOR.

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No. 19.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 7.)

(No. 301.)

Pers, May 1, 1906.

Sir,
WITH reference to the Marquess of Lansdowne's despatch No. 348 of the 1st August, 1905, inclosing copy of a letter addressed to Messrs. Ritchie, Graham, and Milne, ship-builders, of Glasgow, inviting them to prepare and submit tenders for the construction of four new steamers required by the Turkish authorities for the navigation of the Tigris, I have the honour to report that His Majesty's Consul at Bassora has informed me that he has learnt from several sources that the Seniyeh Administration have purchased, or are purchasing, two new steamers from Messrs. Cockerill and Co., a Belgian firm.

If this report be true, I think that Messrs. Ritchie, Graham, and Milne's failure to obtain the order is almost wholly due to the unsatisfactory nature of the work which they executed on a former occasion for the Seniyeh Administration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. B. O'CONNOR.

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No. 20.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 8.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 20th March, relative to affairs in the Aden hinterland.

India Office, May 7, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Government of Bombay to Government of India

Sir, *Bombay Castle, March 8, 1906.*
I AM directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a Memorandum from the Political Resident Aden dated the 23rd February, 1906, and of its inclosure, regarding an affray between the parties belonging to the Atifi and Mansuri tribes of the Subahis.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. W. EDGERLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20

Sultan Sir Ahmed Fathil to Political Resident, Aden.

(After compliments.) *18 Al Hija, 1323 (February 13, 1906).*
WE learn, your Honor, that a raiding expedition of the Atifi had started either in your or our territory, but they, meanwhile, met Sheikh Thabit, the Mansuri, and his comrades on the road, and both parties fired on one another. One of the Atifi's camels was wounded, and they retreated.

You may, O friend, perceive the provocation of the Subahis which still continues up to now.

We, moreover, inform you that the Haushabis have killed two of the Jabaris at Jol Madram.

We report you this as we have heard it.
May you be preserved.

Aden Residency, February 23, 1906.

Copy forwarded, with compliments, to the Secretary to the Government in the Political Department for information.

(For Political Resident, Aden).
(Signed) J. de B. HANCOCK, Captain.

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

Sir, *Bombay Castle, March 9, 1906.*
I AM directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter from the Political Resident, Aden, dated the 25th February, 1906, regarding a raiding expedition into Turkish territory by a party of the Barhemi tribe of Subahis, and of the instructions issued by his Excellency the Governor in Council thereon, of to-day's date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. W. EDGERLEY.

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Inclosure 4 in No. 20.

Political Resident, Aden, to Government of Bombay.

(Confidential.)

Aden Residency, February 25, 1906.
Sir, I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I have received credible information that a party of the Barhemi tribe of Subahis has recently made a raiding expedition into Turkish territory, and looted eighty-five camels from the Hakami, Hatema, and Kawassuma tribes in the vicinity of Moza.

2. The losses are reported to have been as follows:—

Barhemi

3. The wounded member of the Hakami tribe has recently been under treatment in the Perim Coal Company's Hospital, and his statement confirms reports received from other sources.

4. Sheikh Ali-bin-Ahmed Am Tomini has been called upon for an explanation of the affairs, and his reply is awaited.

I have, &c.
(For Political Resident, Aden)
(Signed) F. de B. HANCOCK, Captain.

Inclosure 5 in No. 20.

Government of Bombay to Political Resident, Aden.

(Confidential.)

Bombay Castle, March 9, 1906.
Sir, WITH reference to your letter dated the 25th February, 1906, reporting the result of a raiding expedition into Turkish territory by a party of the Barhemi tribe of Subahis, I am directed to request that you will insist upon the prompt restitution of the looted camels to the Hakami, Hatema, and Kawassuma tribes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. W. EDGERLEY.

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No. 21.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 8.)

WITH reference to this Office letter of the 30th ultimo, the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a Secret despatch to the Government of India, dated the 4th instant, relative to the views of His Majesty's Government on the main questions arising in connection with the tribes of the Aden Protectorate.

India Office, May 7, 1906.

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Inclosure in No. 21

Mr. Morley to Government of India.

(Secret.)

My Lord,

India Office, May 4, 1906.

THE appointment of a new Resident at Aden seems to be a proper occasion for laying before your Excellency the views of His Majesty's Government on the main questions arising in connection with the tribes of the Aden hinterland. The correspondence also addressed to the Government of India by the Governor of Bombay in Council, which, by your instructions, his Excellency has forwarded to me under date the 12th March, 1906, appears to invite an immediate consideration of the principles that it would now be most politic to follow in that region.

2. It appears to be supposed by some that the process of delimitation, satisfactorily carried out in concert with the Turkish Government in the Aden hinterland and establishing a definite frontier between the territories of the Sultan and certain of the tribes, brought with it an extension of the responsibilities and obligations of Great Britain. Lord Lansdowne, however, who was actively concerned in the transaction, explicitly rejected that construction of what had taken place. In the House of Lords on the 30th March, 1903, replying to a question whether the demarcation arranged with Turkey had enlarged the British sphere of influence, he said: "With regard to the responsibility for these territories, I do not see why what has taken place should make any difference in these responsibilities. We have never desired to interfere with the internal and domestic affairs of the tribes. On the other hand, we have throughout made it perfectly plain that we should not tolerate the interference of any other Power with them." In this interpretation His Majesty's Government are fully justified. The security and strength of Aden as one of the main ports and fortresses that guard the line between England and India must always be a standing object in national policy. That strength will obviously be impaired, and not augmented, by quarrels with the tribes, by intervention in their disputes, by a multitude of expeditions, or by any excessive readiness to resort to expeditions out of all proportion, whether immediate or indirect, to either the occasions for them or to any clear advantage to be gained by them.

3. If, as His Majesty's Government have decided, the main purpose of the recent delimitation is achieved by the fixing of a line beyond which Turkish troops or agents cannot advance, I submit to your Excellency the following propositions as well fitted to carry out our decision. So far as the Turkish frontier is concerned, it is in the highest degree desirable that the importance of trespasses across the line, which are neither serious nor deliberate, should not be exaggerated, and, should a protest be required, it would naturally be by way of action at Constantinople. Outside the territory of British India and within a limited area of the Protectorate similar to that formerly known on the Somali Coast as the "10-mile limit," internal disturbances would call for interposition. But beyond that line our Agent should be careful to avoid every step that might lead us into military or political entanglements, without the express sanction of the Secretary of State. A military Detachment and a cantonment or sanatorium there should be considered as outside the contemplation of the Government. This being so, the large body of troops now stationed at Dhalii should be withdrawn, leaving only a sufficient escort for the political officer so long as he may remain there.

4. The retention of a Political officer at Dhalii was originally provisional. In September 1904 my predecessor assented to the proposal of the Government of India "as a temporary measure, to retain a British officer and a small body of troops at Dhalii." This assent he limited to one year, requesting that, after the expiry of that time, he should be informed of the necessity of any continuance of the arrangement. In November 1905, however, he accepted the reasons of the Government of India for making it permanent. In view of the change of circumstances which will be the result of the present arrangements, His Majesty's Government are of opinion that the arrangement should be continued as a permanent one, and that it will be sufficient if the Political Agent is permitted to visit Dhalii temporarily and for special purposes, as occasion may require. For the present I leave it to your Excellency to decide when, after the retirement of the troops, the Political officer and his escort should be withdrawn.

5. The dispatch of postal runners or Agents of the British Government into the

interior is to be, as much as possible, avoided. Any project for disarming the tribes in the nine cantons should be dismissed from serious consideration. Punitive expeditions for offences committed during the demarcation, and not punished then and there, are now out of the question. No demonstration along the frontier, whether demarcated or not, seems to be needed, and, without previous reference to me, no attempts should be made to conclude fresh Treaties.

6. I trust that these propositions may commend themselves to your Excellency, as principles to be pressed upon the attention of the Government of Bombay, and as matter for instructions to the Resident whom your Excellency has appointed to Aden. Any other policy might draw us into a repetition on another scene of the recent transactions in Somaliland.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORLEY.

[16332]

No. 22.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 14.)

(No. 309. Secret and Confidential.)

Constantinople, May 8, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 292 of the 1st instant, I learn from a secret and confidential source that the Vali of Basorah has informed the Vali of Bagdad, who has in turn reported to the Ottoman Government, that the armed conflict in Kassim between Ibn Rashid and Ibn Saoud, which resulted in the death of the former and the defeat of his followers, was the result of the attempt of Sheikh Mubarek-es-Sabah, of Koweit, to bring about a reconciliation between these two Arab Chiefs. The Vali of Basorah accused Mubarek of plotting and treachery, and asked that the necessary military steps might be taken at once to restore order and arrest Ibn Saoud.

In a telegram sent by the Grand Vicer to the Vali of Bagdad in reply to this message, the opinion is expressed that the position of affairs in Kassim and the neighbouring districts, brought about by the death of Ibn Rashid, is the direct outcome of the recent encroachments of the military authorities in the province on the functions of the civil authorities. The Vali is to warn the Commander of the Vith Army Corps that all interference in civil matters must now cease, and that no time must be lost in taking steps to restore tranquility in the disturbed districts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONNOR.

[16671]

No. 23.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 15.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of telegrams relative to affairs in the Aden hinterland.

India Office, May 14, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

Government of India to Mr. Morley.

(Telegraphic.) P.

April 25, 1906.

AFFAIRS in Aden hinterland. Our Foreign Secretary's letters dated the 22nd February and the 5th March forwarding reports on the alleged Government encroachments near Mafalis by Turks. That collection of dues at Al Doka on behalf of Mudir of Mafalis is still going on there appears to be no doubt, according to Resident at Aden's latest reports. Map accompanying Colonel Wahab's Secret letter dated the 11th June, 1904, shows that Al Doka is within British side of boundary

would be unnecessary. He proceeded to sketch the terms on which in his opinion, a reconciliation between him and Bin Saoud could be considered practicable.

These were:

1. That Bin Rashid should have Chhaffa (Kaffa), and Hail, and the Bedouins of Jebel Sammar.
2. That he, Bin Sahab, should have Koweit, Aneiza, Boreyda, Seneyr, and Washin, and should control the tribes occupying them.
3. That Bin Saoud should have Nejd and the Wadi Dowasir.

The Resident asked if Sheikh Mubarak thought that he would be able to keep the parties to their agreement with himself and with one another, and the Sheikh replied that he would.

The Resident then asked whether, under such circumstances, Bin Rashid would have sufficient means to enable him to live without harrying his neighbours, and Sheikh Mubarak replied that he would have Hail and Chhaffa, the Zakat of Shammar, and the produce of forays on the Hail and Aneiza tribes between Hail and Muscat.

Asked what was the Turks would in his opinion take of this triple alliance, Sheikh Mubarak replied that they would immediately regard it with jealousy.

The Resident then asked whether the relations between Sheikh Mubarak and Bin Saoud could be the same as formerly, to which Sheikh Mubarak replied that they did, and that Bin Saoud still listened to his advice. Major C. then thanked the Sheikh for his co-operation in ascertaining the truth regarding Bin Saoud's alleged intention to visit Oman.

Mubarak rejoined that Seyyid Beisal of Muscat had also written to him, and that he had told his Highness that there was no cause for apprehension, and that Bin Saoud had quite enough to do where he was for some time to come.

A reference was then made to the long telegram sent from Bushire to Constantinople through the British Consul at Basra, in which Bin Saoud's name was mentioned. Sheikh Mubarak was asked what impression it drew on him, and that Bin Saoud had not contacted him before, and regarding its disposal. The Sheikh said that he had received full details from Bin Saoud's messenger, Muhammad bin Sawad, who sent the telegram, but admitted that he had heard nothing on the subject from the Bin Saoud family or from Abdul Rahman. He thought, this was because the telegram had been inspired by Sheikh Jassid bin Dhan, whom he spoke in no very favourable terms.

Sheikh Mubarak then mentioned that Nasir bin Mubarak of the El Khalifah family had just been paying him one of his personal visits and had only left a couple of days before. He mentioned that Nasir, as to him of his meeting with Captain Pridmore, and had gone on to ask him (Nasir) Mubarak to put in a good word for him to the Resident with a view to a reconciliation being effected between himself and Sheikh Fasa.

Sheikh Mubarak agreed with the Resident in thinking that Sheikh Fasa would resort to violence on behalf of Nasir Mubarak and that it would be difficult to enter the matter into discussion with Sheikh Fasa's father.

The Resident then raised the topic of the flag and ships articles to be carried by Koweit vessels.

It may be mentioned here that the Resident had brought with him a specimen flag of the pattern previously selected by Sheikh Mubarak with the addition of the word "Koweit" in Roman letters as well as Arabic.

The "Articles" were read over to the Sheikh, and it was explained that it was proposed that the English translation should be verified by the signature of the Political Agent, and that the same considered would be an advantage. Sheikh Mubarak approved of the "Articles" with the exception of the item "Name of Nakhoda." To this he objected, as the Nakhodas were always changing.

The Sheikh then inspected the flag, and after doing so said that he would say before the Resident what he pointed to him the objection to the use of the flag as now shown. He said that he, the Resident did not consider the objection of any weight, he would be prepared to order his subjects to adopt the new pattern.

The Sheikh then explained his objections at some length. He recited his grievances against the Turks and their oppression in the matter of his Pao date gardens and their ingratitude for all he had done in their behalf. He clearly showed that he considered that all the trouble he experienced at their hands was due to his friendly attitude towards them.

He said in conclusion that he would accept the flag as it stood if we would give him

a written guarantee to protect him against any consequences that might arise to him from its use.

It proved, on further inquiry, that it was the addition of the English characters to which he objected. The reason for this addition was thoroughly explained to him, but the explanation did not remove his objections, and he was therefore told that the European lettering was only a useful addition and not an essential, and he then expressed himself as quite ready to adopt the flag, without the English letters, and combined with the "Articles" for use by his subjects.

Sheikh Mubarak next informed the Resident that Bin Rashid had sent a messenger to Meshed Ah, who had laid hands on all the money belonging to Yusuf bin Ibrahim in that place.

Sheikh Mubarak then went on to explain that he too had claims against the house of Bin Ibrahim; that account books, in Arab merchants' dealings, were the only evidence, and that the deposits belonging to himself in the hands of Abdul Aziz bin Ibrahim, the present Representative, amounted to 1,30,000 rupees, and that the advances against him were 70,000 rupees, showing a balance of 60,000 rupees in his favour.

He said that Abdul Aziz at present resided at Surat, in the Bombay Presidency, and would certainly contest the claim, and that he (Sheikh Mubarak) would be glad of assistance from the Resident to enable him to obtain a settlement of the accounts and the payment of the balance due to him. He said he would be glad to appoint an Agent who would take the account book to Bombay for examination.

In this connection Sheikh Mubarak seemed to be only putting forward a feeler and did not make any definite proposals.

In conclusion, the Resident asked Sheikh Mubarak whether he could inform Government that his affairs generally were, as they seemed to be, in a satisfactory and prosperous condition. Mubarak replied that they were. Asked, "as regards the Turkish authorities?" he rejoined "yes, just at present they are satisfactory, but it costs me £ T. 1,500 a-year in doucours to their officials to maintain that position."

The Sheikh then expressed his gratitude for the amount of British protection received; declared that the peace and rest he now enjoyed were, he knew, the result of British support; and that he desired no other or better protectors. He concluded by referring to the pleasant relations which existed between himself and the British Representative.

[17040]

No. 26.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 18.)

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 12th ultimo, relative to the Political Officer at Dhala.

India Office, May 17, 1906

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

Sir,

Bombay Castle, March 19, 1906.

WITH reference to paragraph 2 of Mr. Holland's letter dated the 8th February, 1906, I am directed to state that the Bombay Government have adopted the suggestion made in paragraph 2, and have gazetted the Political Officer at Dhala as a Political Agent.

2. I am to request that the necessary orders may issue to the Inspector-General of Ordnance, Southern Circle, to meet his indents for flags.

I have, &c.
(signed) E. W. EDGE.

Government of India to Government of Bombay.

2. In reply, I am to say that the necessary orders have already been issued by the Director-General of Ordnance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. E. HOLLAND.

[17314]

No. 27.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 21.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and by him to Mr. Secretary Murray, forwarding with this letter for the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 18th instant, relative to the use of a distinctive flag for Kowloon.

India Office, May 19, 1906.

Inclonure in No. 27

Government of India to Mr. Morley.

PLEASE, refer to your telegram dated the 1st March last. In view of present relations with the Porte, is there any objection to distinctive flag for Komitcheffing

[18690]

No. 28

Foreign Office to Treasury

Sir, I AM IN THE HONORABLE SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Foreign Office, May 21 1866.
of the 14th instant, respecting the provision of a steam-launch for the use of the British
Political Agent at Kuwait.

reply, that Sir E. Grey concurs in the view of the Gov-

I am, Sir,
(Signed) E. GORST.

[17701]

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 23.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honor to forward herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 19th April, relative to Kafir affairs.

India Office, May 22, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Major Cox to Government of India.

Bushire, March 17, 1900.

IN continuation of this Office letter, dated the 21st January last, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a letter which I have received from Captain F. D. Prichard, I.A., Political Agent, Bahraich, on the subject of the murder of Sheikh Ahmed-bin-Thamir of Buda.

Inclomure 2 in No. 29

Captain Prideaux to Major Carr

Bellevue, March 2, 1908

I HAVE the honour to refer to my letter, dated the 30th December, 1905, on the subject of the murder of Sheikh Ahmed-bu-Thani of Hhis, and to report, in continuation, the history of subsequent events in Katr, so far as I believe them to be authenticated.

2. The murderer's name was Bin Mu'ammam. As anticipated in my last letter, he succeeded in gaining the shelter of the Ajman tribe, by whom he was received with much honour and with presents of a mare and a robe of honour.

3. The meeting between Sheikh Jasim and the townspeople of Doha, who were attached to Sheikh Ahmed, on the one side, and the Sheikh and elders of the Beni Hajar tribe on the other, took place at Mutaiq, in the interior of Katar, west of Bida. The account previously given of this meeting, and also of the assassination of Sheikh bin-Sulayy in retaliation by a slave of Sheikh Ahmed, have been correctly reported.

It was generally rumored in Babron that Sheikh Jasim had thereupon provoked the slaves with his two accomplices, but this has proved to be incorrect. The chief, however, expressed his sincere regret for the untoward event, and the three slaves were driven out of his camp, whence they seem to have reached Doha safely.

4. It would seem that the Ben Hajar readily recognize that they are the weaker side, for, in spite of the murder of their Chief, they deputed a young man of the same family, named Bashur, to hunt for the murderer. The result was that Bashur returned from Dhabharan about a week

lished his task and was very warmly and friendly reception, and expressed himself very gratified at the conclusion of the blood-fest. He also presented him with a mare and a robe of honour.

5. The question of the succession to the Government of the Principality, with its consequent obligations of residing in Doha and corresponding with the Turkish officials, is still unsettled. Sheikh Ali, the eldest son of Sheikh Ahmed, is ready to accept the appointment, but Sheikh Jasim and the people of Doha and Doha appear to

and was first offered, refused it, as a reward for the murder of Sheikh Ahmed. Sheikh Abdallah-bin-Jasun declined it on the ground that he preferred to devote all his attention to pearl dealing, and Sheikh Abdul Rahman-bin-Jasun replied that he preferred to remain at home.

6. For the present the late Kuzinskian's clerk, Ibrahim-bu-Saleh-bu-Bukaf, has

1

7. The Turks have been urging the latter to return to Doha and resume the Kalimakship with its attendant salary himself. This he has refused to do, but it seems probable that Sheikh Abdallah, his second son, will soon be compelled by the popular vote to take up the appointment. He is described by the Arabs as a wise and God-fearing man.

No. 30.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 23.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosure in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated 11th March 1881, relative to affairs in the Aden hinterland.

India Office, May 22, 1904

Inclosure in No. 30.

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

(Telegraphie.)

Malabarathoor, April 11, 1903.

RESIDENT at Aden telegraphs on the 7th instant:—

Major Jacob reports further fighting between Abdali (tribes) and Subashis near
and further trouble brewing near Nohat Dakin. He reports that one Sallam
di chief, who has recently quarrelled (with) Sultan, is at (the) bottom (of
the) trouble. I am calling upon the Abdali Sultan to restore order and to take Sallam
political prisoner, if possible."

(Addressed to Foreign, Simla; repeated, Foreign with Viceroy)

No. 31

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 24.)

S. J.

India Office, May 23, 1906.

WITH reference to Sir Thomas (now Lord) Sanderson's letter of the 18th February, 1905, with regard to the use of a separate flag by the Sheikh of Kuwait, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Marley to inclose, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a telegram from the Viceroy on the subject.

It will be seen that Sheikh Mubarak has agreed to use a flag of the existing Turkish pattern, but with a distinctive mark, viz., the word "Koweit," in Arabic letters written in purple.

Should there be no objection, on account of existing relations between His Majesty's Government and the Sultan's Porte, Mr. M. El Y. A. suggests that the Governor of Kuwait might be instructed to advise the Sheikh to bring the new flag in use.

I sm., &c.

A. GOLDFY

27

Inclosure in No. 91.

Government of India to Mr. Morley.

May 18, 1906.

refer to your telegram dated the 1st March last. In view of present
the Porte, is there any objection to distinctive flag for Koweit sh.
being brought into use? Use of the present Turkish pattern
with the word "Koweit" has been settled upon with the Sheikh.

No. 32.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 25.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and by direction of Mr Secretary Marley, forwards herewith a copy of the Secretariat Order, dated 20th September 1907, received from the Government of India regarding the proposed conclusion of a Treaty with the Chief of Beda.

India Office, May 24, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

Government of Bombay to Government of India

February 12, 1906.

February 12, 1900.
The Secy, the Foreign Dept. (Cable) of the 1st Feb. and his instructions
on his return journey to Aden from Bombay and there arrange Treaty
with the Tribes. He was fully discussed in Bombay but before Resident
determining both amounts and discussion with the Tribes. I will wait for further
discussion and Resident's departure to await instructions from the Governor
of India, and he must be informed of the limit of his discretion before he leaves so that
that he will not be able to communicate until after visit to Beda.

Inchouure 2 in No. 82

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

Bombay Castle, February 13, 1906.

In continuation of my telegram, dated the 12th instant, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter from the Political Resident, Aden, dated the 3rd February, 1902, and of its inclosures, together with copies of the correspondence regarding the proposed conclusion of a Protocol or Treaty with the Chief of Beda.

2 In forwarding these papers, I am to explain that General Mason's plans

Major-General Mason to Government of Bombay.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Sherreef of Behan, Sherreef Ahmed-am-Mehsin, who is now on a visit to Aden, has informed me that certain of the Turkish forces which are still operating against the rebel Imam of Yemen, are now in the vicinity of the marginally-noted places* and are within two or three days' march of his territories and those of Sultan Ab-hin-Ahmed, the Rasasi (Beda).

I would propose that this officer should be accompanied by sufficiently strong escort to hold his own against any opposition which might be shown to him on the road, and that the party of Mr. Bury should be accompanied by a strong escort on proceeding to Aden, traverse the Dathina district in which Mr Bury's party met with opposition in 1904 and bring about the submission or the subjection of the Hama and Saeedee tribes which then offended, and are still punished by exclusion from Aden.

5. According to my information the Audali Sultan is a Ruler of considerable importance, and occupies a central and a commanding position on the trade route passing through the British colony. He is a powerful and able man, and has a considerable following, and situated as he is between States such as Behan, Anaki, and Padali with which he has friendly relations, he is a valuable ally. In view of his importance, I think it desirable that he, as well as the Rana Chief of the Bara, should now be formally included within the number of our protected States.

7. Presuming that it is not immediately desired or desirable to demarcate the north-east boundary lines running from Lakinat Ash Shub to the desert, it would at least seem as well to be to some extent prepared for contingencies which the final Turkish reconquest of Yemen may be not unreasonably expected to possibly give rise to.

It is, of course, to be considered that a small expedition of this nature would be liable to arouse Turkish suspicions and possible protests from Constantinople, and, according to my present information, there is fair reason to hope that a small party would not meet with serious opposition.

• Al Juf, Al Jouta, and Al Mahjar

Inclosure 4 in No. 32.

January 30, 1906.

(Telegraphic.)
HOME authorities against political expedition to Beda without their sanction
Letter follows.

Inclosure 5 in No. 32

Adm. January 30, 1906.

[illegible]

Government of Bombay to Major-General Mason.

With reference to the Turkish Affairs, I am directed to state that the Turkish Government, in the month of June, 1870, has expressed its willingness to enter into an agreement with the United States Government, for the purpose of securing the protection of the American citizens and property in the Ottoman Empire, and for the purpose of securing the protection of the Ottoman Empire and its subjects in the United States. The advantages to be expected from an agreement with the Ottoman Empire, the extent to which the same may be made by the Turkish authorities are invalid, and the particular reasons for preferring a personal Mission to the Sultan, and for sending a Chief, if any such are likely to be made.

Government of Bombay to Major-General Mason.

(Telegraphic)

YOUR telegram dated the 30th January.

Inclosure 8 in No. 32.

Major-General Mason to Government of Bombay.

Aden Residency, February 3, 1906

{ Confidential }

(Confidential) WITH reference to recent correspondence, ending with your telegram of this date, concerning the proposal that a meeting should now, if possible, be arranged with the

Rasasi Chiefs of Beda at Shugra, with the assistance of the Fadhli Sultan, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of Government, copies of letters which I have dispatched to the address of Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and to Sultan Ahmed bin-Husen, the Fadhli Sultan, and of a reply which I have this morning received from the latter.

2. I at the same time forward, for the information of Government, copy of a letter, dated the 29th ultimo, which I have received from the Abdali Sultan.

3. I am of opinion that it is possible that, if the Fadhli Sultan really brings the force of his influence to bear upon the matter, the suggested meeting may actually take place at Shugra and the desired Treaty be at length concluded.

4. In anticipation of the possibility I have the honour to request that some discretion may be allowed to me in regard to both the amount of the stipend which shall be allotted in the 5th clause of the usual Protectorate Treaty to the Beda Sultans, and to the nature of the reward which shall be accorded to the Fadhli Sultan in the event of his proving himself capable of rendering the desired assistance.

5. The stipend hitherto suggested for the Beda Sultans is 100 dollars per month, which is the amount of that paid to the Anlaki Sultan under the Treaty concluded with him in the year 1904.* This, with the dollar taken at the rate of 2 rupees per dollar, would allow of a grant to each of the two Sultans, Ali-bin-Ahmed and Alawi-bin-Husen, of 100 rupees per mensem. But as it is clear from past correspondence that one of the main causes of delay has been the desire of the subordinate Chiefs of Beda to share in the profit accruing from the Treaty, and to derive as much personal gain as possible from the transaction, it may prove desirable to grant the Sultans a still larger stipend than that originally proposed.

6. It will be a pleasure for me to obtain instructions in the matter from Shugra, and, with a view to the successful and rapid conclusion of the affair, I would request that sanction may be accorded to me to, if necessary, raise the proffered stipend to one of 150 dollars, or, if necessary, even 200 dollars per mensem.

7. The political advantages to be gained by the Treaty may be held to be worth the extra expense, which, however, will be, of course, if possible, avoided.

8. As to the reward to be given to the Fadhli Sultan, I understand from your telegram received to-day that this cannot take the form of an enhanced stipend—or, rather that sanction thereto cannot be solicited from the Government of India pending a full Report on your letter dated the 31st ultimo, which will not, of course, reach me till next mail.

9. I would at the same time venture to here represent that Sultan Ahmed-bin-Husen, the Fadhli, does not at present draw a stipend really proportionate to his importance in the affairs of this Protectorate. I would remind Government that he is, under Treaty, debarred from the collection of transit dues, from which his more fortunate neighbour, the Abdali Sultan, derives such substantial profit; and I would recommend that, if the Sultan now actually illustrates the extent of his influence to the north-east of the Protectorate, his importance should be recognized by the grant of enhanced stipend, which shall place him more on a level with his old rival the Abdali, and will also have the effect of substituting a feeling of really loyal friendship for one of continued discontent.

10. I would therefore recommend that his stipend should be raised to one of 300 dollars a-month, in the event of the proposed meeting taking place with the desired effect.

11. To these proposals I would solicit the favour of necessary instructions by telegram. If the Treaty is concluded, as suggested, at Shugra, all the trouble and expense of a political Mission to Beda will be avoided; and in the event of my present invitation to the Rasasi Sultan not being accepted, it will then be possible to again consider the desirability of such a Mission.

12. In the event of its proving desirable to slightly postpone the date of the proposed meeting at Shugra the necessary intimation will be conveyed by telegram.

Inclosure 9 in No. 32.

Major-General Mason to Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed.

Aden Residency, January 30, 1905.

(After compliments.)

We write this friend to inform you that we shall arrive at Shugra on the 21st February (21st Al Hijra 1325) next exactly. We hope that you will meet us there to sign the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance of which we have written to you before. We can stay at Shugra for one day or, possibly, two days, and then we proceed straight to India to see his Excellency the Governor. We hope that we shall be able to hand him the Treaty signed by you, and that we shall not have to tell him that you have refused this invitation to meet us.

If, which God forbid, you are sick, or for any other really urgent reason cannot come yourself, then send your son with your seal and with a letter from you authorizing him to sign the Treaty on your behalf.

Send your friend Ahmed bin-Husen to also sign the Treaty and send Ahmed Husen, the Azzani, and Sheikh Abdurrah-bin-Ahmed-am-Musa, the Azzani, and a few other of your friends with seals and signatures of the Treaty.

Arrange for all to be ready at Shugra to meet us before the 13th February (21st Al Hijra, 1325). Fail not.

We are sending this letter through our friend Sultan Ahmed-bin-Husen, the Fadhli Sultan, and he will doubtless give you good advice to come quickly on this our invitation.

We cannot wait at Shugra longer than the time we have stated.

May you be preserved, and I we look forward to the pleasure of meeting you soon.

Inclosure 10 in No. 32.

Major-General Mason to Sultan Ahmed-bin-Husen.

Aden Residency, January 30, 1905.

(After compliments.)

We write this to tell you that we shall arrive at Shugra on the 21st February (21st Al Hijra, 1325) next exactly. We hope that you will meet us there to sign the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance of which we have written to you before. We can stay at Shugra for one day or, possibly, two days, and then we proceed straight to India to see his Excellency the Governor. We hope that we shall be able to hand him the Treaty signed by you, and that we shall not have to tell him that you have refused this invitation to meet us.

We need not say that if this can be arranged with your assistance it will be a great pleasure to us to tell your services to the notice of the Government.

We can only stay at Shugra for one or, at the outside, two days, and then we have to proceed to India to see his Excellency the Governor, and we hope to be able to hand him the Treaty signed by you, and that we shall not have to tell him that you have refused this invitation to meet us.

We are soon, after our return from India, going on leave again to England, and we particularly desire to have this matter settled before we go.

Send your friend Ahmed bin-Husen to also sign the Treaty and send Ahmed Husen, the Azzani, and a few other of your friends with seals and signatures of the Treaty.

Arrange for all to be ready at Shugra to meet us before the 13th February (21st Al Hijra, 1325). Fail not.

We are sending this letter through our friend Sultan Ahmed-bin-Husen, the Fadhli Sultan, and he will doubtless give you good advice to come quickly on this our invitation.

We cannot wait at Shugra longer than the time we have stated.

May you be preserved, and I we look forward to the pleasure of meeting you soon.

Sultan Ahmed-bin-Husein to Major-General Mason

(After compliments.)

6 *Al Hyps*, 1323 : *Imago* 31 : 1918.

6 Al Buys, 1323 (January 31 1900)
 We have received your letter dated Jan. 1 and are glad to hear
 you are going to S. C. to be the first to see the new building. We
 will be at the 21st Al Buys, 1323, next, you are welcome. We are exceedingly glad for
 your calling at our country, and your visit will produce much pleasure and relief to
 our people.

The inclosed letter to Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, was also received, and immediately dispatched it with a special messenger together with a letter to the

We are desirous to do a favour to the Great Government. We had previously written them but we have as yet received no reply. We have therefore written them again on the 15th of the 10th month of the 1st year of the 1st reign of the Great Emperor. We have written them according to the mentioned time.

Good willing, on their arrival, we will advise them to sign the Treaty and enter into

days or more.

As to Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed, we have written to him to stay some time at the ...
... of the ...
... of the ...

Inclusive 12 in No. 32.

Sultan Sir Ahmed Fadhil to Major-General Mason

(After compliments.)

6. At Hggo, 1823 (January 24 1800.)

At Hijo, 1823 (January 25 1800)
We have received by Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and the Audali the Turks asking them to go to Senna. We have dispatched a trustworthy man to go if, if possible, fetch the letter from the Audal so that we may know its contents.

ing northward of Kafa. He possesses an extensive territory which would be large piece added to Yemen.

If some arrangement could be made to stop the Turks from these practices, it is
most probable that the Turkish people would be more friendly to them, and that
the British would be able to do more for them, but it is not clear that the British
could do more for them.

Your judgment is right.
 May you be preserved.

Inclusion 13 in No. 32

Government of India to Government of Bombay

(Telegraphic.)

Calcutta, February 20, 1906.

Calcutta, February 20, 1906.

YOUR telegram of the 12th and letter of the 13th February. Beda Treaty
Government of India concurs that it is not desirable to carry Treaty with Beda
and not to carry it out on all matters for which up to the present with Treaty
not a part of the Treaty of peace and commerce and consular rights and
for any other purpose, and for safety of all parties who may have
any interest in the Treaty.

whether or not Fadhli Sultan's stipend might be determined later on what terms of treaty with him can be finally discussed.

Inclosure 14 in No. 32.

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

Bombay Castle, February 20, 1906.

Sir,

Bombay Castle, February 20, 1906.
 Sir, IN continuation of my letter of the 13th February, 1906, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter from the Political Resident, Aden, of the 11th idem, and of my reply thereto of to-day's date, regarding the proposed conclusion of a Protectorate Treaty with the Chief of Beda.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. J. HEATON.

Acting Chief Secretary to Government

Inclosure 15 in No. 32

Major-General Mason to Government of Bombay.

Sir,

Aden Residency, February 11, 1904.

Sir, WITH reference to your letter of the 31st ultimo, concerning Boda affairs, I have the honour to invite reference to Boundary Commissioner's letter of the 1st October, 1903, and to Mr. FitzMaurice's letter dated the 30th April, 1905.

2. Mr. Fitzmaurice's remark that Beda is the one serious gap in the north-east line constitutes the main argument in favour of the early conclusion of the Treaty.

3. A political Mission with Boda as its objective was suggested in this Office letter of the 27th August last, in connection with the proposal to exact submission from the Dathina tribes, and to generally acquire a more intimate acquaintance with the easterly portion of this Protectorate, and to establish closer relations with the more important Chiefs of that district, and it is not necessary to here repeat what was then urged in favour of that proposal.

4. I would only add that there is much to be urged in favour of acquiring some personal knowledge of the country and of individuals before Treaties with them are concluded. There is good reason to believe that some of the Treaties entered into with the Upper Yaffa and with Behan-a have not been fully concluded with the most powerful and truly representative members of the community.

5 I am personally inclined to the opinion that a Treaty with the Abdali Sultan is desirable as well as a Treaty with the Ranaam Chief of Buda. This opinion is based upon information obtained from various sources, including the Abdali Sultan and other persons of importance who have been interviewed on the subject. But it would, I think, be desirable that if possible a more direct personal knowledge should be acquired of the districts before individuals are finally selected to represent the tribes concerned.

6. In regard to Hadhramut itself there is little room for doubt that Sultan Ali-Ibn-Ahmed, the Rasani, is really a man of influence, but one of the main causes of his not having at present visited Aden would at the same time appear to be connected with the relations subsisting between him and the minor Chiefs of the sub-tribes of the Harardith.

1. At the present moment the position may be said to be that there are too many at work trying to bring in the Beda Sultan in the hope of gaining some reward. Each of these individuals is naturally anxious to secure the reward for himself, and the result is doubtless that to some extent one is undoing the work of another. It may therefore be urged that rather than depend upon the efforts of contending aspirants to the expected reward, it would be better that we should ourselves dispatch a Mission to that

8. It has now been decided to accept the apologies of the Hamani and Saccoco tribes, and a Mission may be held to be no longer necessary to correct them. It may at the same time be held desirable that our acquaintance with them should now be improved.

9. Our relations with the Lower Yaffai Sultan have for some time past not been improved, and a political Mission to the north-east might be expected to have a beneficial effect upon the same.

10. Sir N. O'Connor has recently urged that it is desirable to proceed with extreme caution north-east, and it is of course to be considered that the north-east line has not

yet been delimited, and that the Porte have expressed their willingness to at any time determine the frontier with us.

11. At the same time a magnetic north-east line has been decided upon, and there is no room for doubt that both the Dathina district and Bada lie to the south of that.

12. Upon the whole I am of opinion that if the Rasasi Sultan fails now to accept my recent invitation to meet him at the head-quarters of another Chief, it is desirable that his country should be visited by a political Mission, with a view to the conclusion of the desired Treaty, and to the additional support which will thereby be lent to our general claim that this territory lies on our side of the magnetic north-east boundary line agreed upon.

13. The Baniardth is reported to be the most fertile district, and the establishment of more intimate relations with the Rasasi Chiefs should tend to the benefit of the trade of the main Settlement. Apart from the desideratum of effectually debarring the Turks from access to the Hadramaut, I think it desirable that this Treaty should now be concluded with as little further delay as possible.

14. For the sake of our general prestige alone it is to be desired that the object, which we have for some years passed been known to desire, should now be achieved.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. M. MASON, Major-General,
Political Resident, Aden.

Inclosure 16 in No. 32.

Government of Bombay to Major-General Mason

Sir, Bombay Castle, February 20, 1906.
I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th February, 1906, formulating in response to the call in my letter of the 31st January, 1906, the case in favour of pushing forward an Agreement with the Chief of Bada.

2. His Excellency the Governor, as you are aware, thought it desirable to invite you to come to Bombay to personally discuss this and other matters with himself. Major Jacob, the Political Officer at Dthala, and the Chief Secretary to Government (Sir Steyning Edgerley) were present at the discussion, and I am to reply to your letter in the following sense.

3. It is not necessary to carry the case further than has already been stated. It is already initiated to meet the Chief of Bada at Shugra and negotiate a Treaty there with him, you may continue on the lines on which you have so far moved, and if it is obtainable negotiate a Treaty on the same lines, and with a promise of a subsidy up to the same maximum as that of Dehan. Should the Chief not come into Shugra, or if the negotiations not be successful, no further move should be made, and the initiative in the future be left to the Chief. I am to place on record the reasons which led to this conclusion.

4. Practically the only argument in favour of the early conclusion of a Treaty with Bada is that indicated in paragraph 3 of your letter under reply. It appeared, on discussion, that this argument has lost much of its force since the acceptance by the Turks of the principle of the continuance of the boundary line from Lakmat-as-Shub to the desert on the true north-east line. It transpired that, apart from the most recent maps, whether Bada lies entirely on the British or Turkish side of the line. It is believed that it lies considerably to the British side, so much so, that the British would be entitled to protest if the Turks interfered seriously in Bada affairs. If that be so, there is little reason for the somewhat unusual anxiety for this Treaty which the invitations to the Chief must have disclosed to the hinterland tribes.

5. There is also no further reason connected with the Dathina country for any political Mission in the direction of the north-east. The submission of the Hassani and Saeedee tribes for their conduct in the matter of Mr. Bury's party is being accepted, and because of this it is not necessary that a political Mission should be sent for the purpose of securing this Treaty would have to be accompanied by a not inconsiderable force, and might be on a strictly military basis, and for any change from the traditional to a forward policy therefore seemed unconvincing.

6. So far as the wishes of the Secretary of State are known,* the policy to be followed is not to do anything which may lead to the administration of the territory, but to recognize to the full the independence of the tribes, subject to their friendly attitude towards the British and abstinence from intrigue with other Powers, and to maintain a constant respect to the susceptibilities of our Turkish neighbours. There is thus every reason for avoiding any overt action in the hinterland which may lead to enhancing the necessity for intervention in the affairs of the tribes, and the conclusion was reached that the improvement of our relations with and knowledge of the tribes would be best served by the methods of work already laid down by this Government for Major Jacob, and recently approved by the Government of India and His Majesty's Secretary of State.† For anything in the shape of definite Treaty relations with the tribes it is at once more dignified and satisfactory that the Resident should await solicitation by the tribes for the conclusion of such engagements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. J. HEATON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government

[18125]

No. 33.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 28.)

(No. 358. Confidential.)

Constantinople, May 23, 1906.

Sir, IN reply to your telegram No. 92 of yesterday, informing me that the Sheikh of Koweit had written across it, of the word "Koweit," I have the honour to make the following remarks:—

It is probable that the Turkish Government will object and remonstrate with the Sheikh as soon as they become aware of the innovation, and it is almost certain that the Sheikh, in pursuance of his usual policy, will endeavour to mitigate his offence in the eyes of the Sultan, whatever may be the language he holds to the British Resident, by alleging that the alteration was urged upon him by the British Government. It is improbable, however, that the Imperial Government will so far resent the Sheikh's action as to refuse Koweit dhows carrying the abnoxious flag "pratique" in Turkish ports, but if they should do so it will, I think, be incumbent on His Majesty's Government to see that the Sheikh does not suffer for following the advice given to him.

Apart from this, it seems to me to be in consonance with our general policy in regard to Koweit that the Sheikh should adopt some special and visible sign of his quasi-independence, and I do not know that any better emblem of his peculiar political position than that now proposed could easily be found.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONNOR.

[18431]

No. 34.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 29.)

WITH reference to Sir A. Gollery's letter of the 24th May, the Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 10th May, relative to the Mount Arbitration Award.

India Office, May 28, 1906

* See Secretary of State's telegram, dated May 14, 1905; ditto despatch, dated April 1, 1904, ditto dated December 8, 1904.

† Dated August 31 and November 10, 1905.

Inclosure 1 in No. 81.

French Consul, Muscat, to British Consul, Muscat

AFIN de terminer la c
dans l'affaire des boutres M
pour de vous adresser
par moi dont je vous sera
les observations que vous
particuliers
de Règlement similaire que vous
l'acte de ces documents, seraient par suite en mesure

Veillez, &c
(Signé) R. LARONCE

Inclosure 2 in No. 81.

Projet de Règlement concernant l'application
de la sentence prononcée par le Tribunal
Arbitral de La Haye le 8 Août, 1905

Remarks by His Majesty's Consul at Muscat
upon the French Consul's plan for applying
the sentence of the Court of Arbitration

ARTICLE 1 Les sujets du Sultan qui
sont autorisés à l'avenir à arborer le
pavillon Français sur leurs navires jouis-
sent dans l'Oman du même traitement et
des mêmes droits que tous les autres sujets
du Sultan.

Art. 2. En principe les personnes au-
torisées à arborer le pavillon Français sur
leurs navires sont celles dont la liste a
été dressée par le Consulat de France à
Muscat, et remise au Consulat d'Angle-
terre le 4 Mars, 1906
ont un pouvoir résulter du décès de ces
personnes ou du retrait par la Fra
l'autorisation

2. Impossible, no, supposing every
owner to have received authorization for
one dhow between 1863 and 1892 (for
which we are obliged to take the word of
the French), only those would be entitled
to retain it who had actually the same
boat sailing under the French flag at the
time The Hague sentence was pronounced
and his number of boats could not be
increased subsequently according to our
reading of the terms of the Award (vide
Mr. Graham's despatch of the 8th August,
1905, to which I was referred for guidance
by the Government of India in their tele-
gram of the 21st November last), and my
note and remarks on that of the French.

Art. 3. Les propriétaires de boutres
battant pavillon Français pourront en
toute liberté vendre leurs navires, ou en
acheter d'autres sans que leur droit au
pavillon Français puisse être contesté

3. There would be no objection to the
proprietors selling their dhows, but
reply to (2) applies to the question of
replacement. If this concession is made
the purchase of a new dhow at the same
time must only be allowed to replace one lost
or sold

Art. 4. Les boutriers qui ont le droit
d'arborer le pavillon Français ne pourront
le céder à leurs héritiers, des-
cendants ou collatéraux, les boutres dont
cous-ci obtiendraient ainsi la possession
arboreraient le pavillon du Sultan.

Art. 5. La juridiction du Sultan sera
applicable dans l'Oman à tous les pro-
priétaires de boutres battant pavillon
Français, ainsi qu'aux capitaines et aux
membres de l'équipage; toutefois pour les
crimes ou délits commis sur les
eaux territoriales de l'Oman, et en général
partout où le droit d'inviolabilité est
réservé, la compétence restera au Consul
de France, ou à défaut à son représentant,
ou aux officiers de la Marine Nationale.
Si le crime ou délit est établi, le coupable
sera remis au Sultan.

5. This should not be accepted; the
views of His Majesty's Government having
been already communicated to the French,
should be adhered to.

T
16th November, 1905.

Art. 6. Les dispositions du présent
Règlement s'appliquent aux boutres
seulement, et non aux autres navires.
La sentence, par voie d'arbitrage, sera appliquée au
Sultan.

6. A clause should be added to the
effect that infringement of the arrange-
ment should be dealt with by the High
Court of Arbitration, and not by the
Court of Arbitration. The
authorization when they please.

(Signé) R. LARONCE.

Muscat, le 20 Avril, 1906.

[18432]

No. 85.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 29.)

THE Secretary of the Political Department present his compliments to the
Director of Military Operations, and begs to forward herewith, for his information, copy
of Memorandum of external affairs relating to Arabia, the North-East Frontier,
Burmah, Siam and China, for the month of April 1906.

India Office, May 29, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 85.

Memorandum of Information received during the Month of April 1906, regarding External
Affairs relating to Arabia.

[Note.—This Memorandum is based upon reports the accuracy of which it is not always possible
to guarantee.]

ARABIA

(SEE paragraph 4 of the Memorandum for March 1906.) On the 20th April,
1906, the Secretary of State was informed that the Resident at Aden had reported that
the local British officials would place no hindrance in the way of the Italian recruiting
agents but that the Sultan of Shehr and M. Kaffa who derived considerable profit from
the trade of slaves between his port of M. Kaffa and the M. Kaffa and the Her Adir
coast was, not unreasonably, averse to any action in the matter which might be
construed as co-operation with the Italians in an endeavour to coerce the inhabitants
of the coast district concerned.

2. See paragraph 4 of the Memorandum for February 1906.) On the 7th
April the Resident at Aden telegraphed that Major Jacob had reported further
fighting between the Ahlan and Sultan tribes near Al Anad and that further
fighting was being done near Nohat Dakim. On 5th April a minor Ahlan Chief, who had
recently quarrelled with the Sultan, appeared to be at the bottom of the trouble. The
Resident was advised upon the Ahlan Sultan to restore order and to take Saalam
prisoner, if possible.

3. On the 25th February, 1906, the Resident at Aden reported that a party of the Subans had recently made a raiding expedition into Turkish territory, and looted eighty-five camels from the Hahama, Hahama, and Kawassama tribes in the vicinity of Moza. Orders have been given for the immediate restitution of the camels.

TURKISH ARABIA.

4. (See paragraph 7 of the Memorandum for March 1906.) The Resident at Aden reported on the 25th March 1906 that the forces of the Sultan of Muscat, together with the guns captured from the Imperial troops from Shehara, towards Firket-el-Azr. Both the Vahid and the Commander-in-Chief of the forces in the Yemen and the Special Commissioner of the Persian Gulf had been striving to obtain permission to return to Zanaa. chief succeeded in compelling them to retire from Sanaa to Hodeidah, whence they had been striving to obtain permission to return to Zanaa.

5. General.—(Vide paragraph 16 of the Memorandum for March 1906.) The Resident at Aden reported on the 25th March 1906 that the Majesty's ship "Lapwing" had been ordered to proceed to Bussorah from Bushire.

PERSIAN GULF.

6. Muscat.—(Vide paragraph 21 of the Memorandum for March 1906.) On the 9th April, a telegram was received from His Majesty's Secretary of State in London consenting to the unconditional payment of the money, if it was still considered the Government of India that the loan should be made.

7. On the 27th March a letter was received from Major Cox stating that M. G. Grey, the British Consul at Muscat, had assured Major Grey that the party to M. Goguer's servant had been genuine. The letter also stated that M. Goguer and Ali Musa over the importation of goods from Muscat to the Persian Gulf.

8. Kuwait and Ajlun.—(Vide paragraph 23 of Memorandum for March 1906.) In March, Major Cox had a long interview with the British Consul at Ajlun, Mr. J. H. Smith, who had been in Ajlun since the capture of the town by the British. He stated that the Turkish authorities were satisfied, but confessed that the Turkish authorities were not satisfied with the results of the expedition.

douceurs to Turkish officials to maintain that position. Major Cox considers that as long as the practical expression of the Sheikh's sentiments in regard to us undergoes no change, the improvement of the relations between Sheikh Mubarak and the Turkish authorities and Bussorah, within reasonable limits, is rather a convenience to us than otherwise. Major Cox notes Captain Knox seems to have gained the Sheikh's personal regard, and that he is visited freely in a friendly way by many of the Sheikh's subjects.

10. The Political Resident announced in a telegram, dated the 25th April, that the Sheikh of Kuwait had informed the Sheikh of Mohammerah that the Ibn Rashid and his immediate following had been surprised and annihilated by Ibn Saood. The telegram has been repeated to the Secretary of State.

11. (Vide paragraph 22 of Memorandum for February 1906.) His Majesty's Secretary of State telegraphed on the 14th April, approving of the Government of India's proposal that a warning should be given to the Trucial Chiefs to the effect that the Government of India would not view with complacency the intrigues of any of them with Ibn Saood. Major Cox has accordingly been authorized to convey the warning.

His Majesty's Government have accepted the view of the Government of India that a warning to Ibn Saood would be necessary, if he were to carry out his reported intention to visit the Pirate Coast and Oman. They consider, however, that it would be better that such warning should be conveyed to him only in the event of his appearing upon the coast, and that it should then be conveyed to him direct by the British Government rather than through the Sheikh of Kuwait or the Sultan of Muscat. It is proposed that, in the event of a warning being necessary, a vessel of war should meet Ibn Saood and convey the warning to him, and that he should be given clearly to understand that no tampering with the engagements and Conventions of the Trucial Chiefs will be allowed.

12. Bahrain.—(Vide paragraph 21 of Memorandum for September 1905.) With reference to Major Cox's letter of the 9th September, on the question of obtaining reparation for the murder of certain Bahrainis by the Behaiah tribe, the Government of India recommended to the Secretary of State, in January last, the adoption of one of two possible alternatives:—

- 1) To press for compensation from the Porte for the outrage committed by the Behaiah in its territory; or,
- (2.) To drop the case.

His Majesty's Government have decided to accept the second alternative, and do not propose to pursue the matter any further, so far as the Turkish Government are concerned. They consider, however, that the Sheikh of Bahrain may be advised that a further enquiry into the matter, in order to ascertain the exact facts of the case, and the names of any tribes which are in a position to exercise pressure upon the Behaiah to induce them to come to terms. Finally, they desire that the Sheikh should be informed that His Majesty's Government will not countenance any excessive action on his part in pursuing this policy.

13. The Political Resident inquired as to how the case of the Persian subject who had committed an offence in Bahrain harbour should be dealt with, the Government of India telegraphed, on the 6th April, that the practice is for the Political Officer to dispose of such cases, the representative of the Sheikh being present. It was stated that, as the Persian Government had recently been notified formally that the Island of Bahrain was under British protection, there appeared to be no reason why the Political Officer should not follow the ordinary practice, especially as the offence in question was committed in Bahrain harbour. The Political Officer should be advised that he exercised jurisdiction either delegated by the Sheikh or derived from his position as Representative of the protecting Power. Major Cox reported on the 21st April that the offender, having restored the money stolen, had been released by the Political Agent on bail in anticipation of sanction.

14. In January last the crew of a Persian dhow bound for Bahrain complained to Captain Prideaux that, their boat having been driven by stress of weather into the anchorage of Abu Dhaluf, on the north western extremity of the Katr Peninsula, they were ill-used by the Sheikh and people of the place, and the cargo of the boat was looted. Captain Prideaux proceeded to Abu Dhaluf on board His Majesty's ship "Sphinx," and summoned the Sheikh to reply to the accusation made against him. The Sheikh at first refused to comply, but on

being threatened with punishment he eventually appeared at Bahrein. He made a statement to the effect that the cargo of the boat in question had been given to some of his subjects by the boatmen in return for assistance, and that the rest of it had been purchased from the Persians by the people of Katr. As no British or Bahrein interests appeared to have been involved in the case, the Government of India intimated to the British Resident that Captain Knox would have been better advised had he refrained from action until he had obtained the orders of the Government of India.

1. The British Resident at Muscat, Oman, has been informed that the British Government have decided to send a small party to the Sultanate of Muscat, Oman, to investigate the claims of the British Government in regard to the Sultanate of Muscat, Oman, and to the Sultanate of Zanzibar, and to the Sultanate of the Aden Hinterland.

2. The British Resident at Muscat, Oman, has been informed that the British Government have decided to send a small party to the Sultanate of Muscat, Oman, to investigate the claims of the British Government in regard to the Sultanate of Muscat, Oman, and to the Sultanate of Zanzibar, and to the Sultanate of the Aden Hinterland.

17—(Vide paragraph 30 of Memorandum for February 1906.) M. Hatnoglou informed the British Resident at Muscat, Oman, that the Sultan of Muscat, Oman, had three months ago sent a small party to the Sultanate of Muscat, Oman, to investigate the claims of the British Government in regard to the Sultanate of Muscat, Oman, and to the Sultanate of Zanzibar, and to the Sultanate of the Aden Hinterland.

Sims, May 1, 1906.

(Signed) R. K. HOLLAND.

[18079]

No. 36.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 268.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 29 1906.

THE French Ambassador inquired on the 25th instant whether the arrangements to be applied to the Muscat dhows in accordance with the decision of the Court of Arbitration at The Hague had been approved, as some time had elapsed since the French Consul at Muscat had submitted them to the British Consul there.

M. Cambon was informed to-day that the negotiations in progress between Major Grey and M. Larouze do not appear to have as yet resulted in a satisfactory understanding, but that His Majesty's Government are awaiting a further report on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY

[18518]

No. 37.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 30.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and to inform him that the Secretary of State for India has received a letter from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated the 24th April, relating to the proposed visit of Bin Saoud to visit Oman.

India Office, May 29, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37

Major Cox to Government of India

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Bushire, April 5, 1906.

IN continuation of my letter, dated 23rd February last, I have the honour to attach copy of a note addressed by Captain Knox to me from camp on the 25th February last, in which he gives the purport of the reply said to have been addressed to Sheikh Mobarak by Bin Saoud in connection with the latter's reported desire to visit Oman.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. Z. COX.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37

Political Agent, Koweit, to Major Cox

Camp Rasul Ars, February 25, 1906.

I WENT to see the Sheikh this morning, and his Secretary handed me the copy of the following letter from Bin Saoud to Sheikh Mobarak. I note below the translation—

"May God prolong your life! Your Excellency knows from beforehand that the people of Oman have been our friends for many years, and it is true that we have sent to them letters and correspondence to them, but, by God, it was not intentional [? with any ulterior motive], and we did not mention in it any advice or warning of any kind. We are sorry that we were not careful over it. God forbid that there should be harm in it, and we have before written to your Excellency and Alkoolah, you know—may God preserve you!—that we are a little deficient in our knowledge of titles and how to answer them, and we fear [? to write] something that may not be suitable to their desire. We do not know them that we should write to them according to their desire, and we expect that from your kindness. We hope from God that He will prolong your existence, and salamu."

N.B.—I have not seen the original, but I have no reason to suppose that this is not genuine

[18790]

No. 38.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 1.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosures in a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 16th April, relative to affairs in the Aden Hinterland.

India Office, May 31, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 38

Government of Bombay to Government of India

Sir,

Bombay Castle, March 9, 1906.

WITH reference to my letter dated the 23rd February, 1906, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a Memorandum from the Political Resident, Aden, dated the 25th idem, and of its inclosure, being notes of an interview between Captain Hancock and Inad-bin-Ahmed, Sheikh of

[1839]

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the Juledi, a sub-tribe of the Subahi, relative to his quarrels with the Humedi, a tribe residing on the Turkish side of the border. I am also to forward copy of the instructions issued by this Government thereon of to-day's date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. W. EDGERLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 38.

Memorandum by Captain Hancock

1 INTERVIEWED Sheikh Inad-bin-Ahmed, the Juledi, this morning.

2. I informed him that Government had been addressed concerning his request for a rifle, and that no reply had yet been received.

3. He said that he had a dispute with Saeed-al-Jorabi, Jorabi, and Saleh-ba-Ah, the Dubani Jerawi, concerning his share in the Mukhadlamahip of the roads. I replied that it was not a matter in which we were accustomed to interfere. Caravans made their own arrangements about Mukhadlamah. In reply to his query, I replied that, certainly, he must not let his road passing his limits safe and peaceful.

4. He said that he had quarrels with the Humedi. I advised him to make peace. I said that he must not allow these quarrels to interfere with the peace of the roads. He said that the Humedi interfered with caravans in their limits. He therefore wished to interfere with their caravans passing through our limits. I replied again that this, he must not do.

5. If he had specific complaint to make of caravans having been looted in Humedi limits, I would inform the Great Government. He had none, but he said that he dared not send his camels into Humedi limits, as he wanted to. I sympathized with him, but advised him to make use of his camels in our more peaceful limits.

6. He said that the Humedi had recently raided some of his people. There was a regular feud with them. They were more powerful than he was. They had even expressed defiance of Government. The Turkish Government could not themselves control them, &c. I said that these feuds were very mischievous, and that I hoped that the country would gradually become more peaceful.

7. He asked for ammunition, clothes, and presents. Ammunition I said that I could not give him. I represented that Government had been addressed in regard to his request for a rifle. I asked him if he had ever had fair cause to complain of lack of generosity. He admitted that he had no.

8. He said that he was the friend of Government, and wished Government to assist him as much as possible. He found his tribemen difficult to control, and needed assistance.

(Signed) F. DE B. HANCOCK, Captain,
Acting First Assistant Resident

February 24, 1906.

Inclosure 3 in No. 38

Notes of an interview between Captain Hancock and Sheikh Inad-bin Ahmed

BELOW, an interview took place on the morning of the 24th February, 1906, between Captain F de B Hancock, Acting First Assistant Resident, Aden, and the Sheikh Inad-bin-Ahmed, the Juledi.

Aden Residency, February 25, 1906.

1. Copy forwarded, with compliments, to the Secretary to Government in the Political Department, with reference to this Office letter dated the 24th December, 1905.

2. There is a long-standing feud between the Juledi and the Humedi, which appears to have recently reached a more acute stage. The Juledi Sheikh is anxious for more arms and ammunition, for the alleged purpose of defending himself more effectively against his enemy on the other side of the border.

3. Trans-border feuds are, of course, to be as far as possible discouraged, and I have pressed the Juledi Sheikh to, if possible, conclude a truce with the Humedi.

(For Political Resident, Aden)
(Signed) F. DE B. HANCOCK, Captain.

Inclosure 4 in No. 38.

Government of Bombay to Political Resident, Aden.

Political Department, Bombay Castle, March 9, 1906.

Sir
WITH reference to the notes of your interview with Sheikh Inad-bin-Ahmed, the Juledi, dated the 24th February, 1906, I am desirous to express my appreciation of the information furnished to me. I am of India think a case a suitable one to bring to notice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. W. EDGERLEY

[18775]

No. 39

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 1)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, a copy of a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 10th May, relative to border affairs in Amiri territory.

India Office, May 31, 1906

Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

Government of Bombay to Government of India

Bombay Castle, April 5, 1906.

(Confidential)

I AM directed to submit for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter, dated the 15th March, 1906, from the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Aden, drawing attention to the fact that Turkish subjects have interests on our side of the border.

It is impracticable in the circumstances of the case to draw the attention of the Government of India to the gradual extension of Turkish influence on the Turkish side of the border.

It is recognized in paragraph 1 of the letter from the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated the 15th March, 1906, and it appears to his Excellency the Governor in Council to be inadvisable, and in view of the fact that the Government of India have not yet decided on that particular subject, and it is presumed, therefore, that the firm

desire to proceed with the proposed exchange of notes and the signing of the maps regarding the frontier. It is recognized in paragraph 1 of the letter from the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated the 15th March, 1906, and it is presumed, therefore, that the firm

Inclosure 2 in No. 39

Political Resident, Aden, to Government of Bombay

(Confidential.)

Aden Residency, March 18, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of papers concerning border affairs in Amiri territory, and to request that I may be informed of the views of Government in the matter.

2. In regard to recent differences of a similar nature on the Subahi border, near Mafatia, the Mansuri Sheikh was informed, as mentioned in the note forwarded with this Office letter, dated the 25th February last, that such affairs depended upon purely geographical conditions. The simple view was taken that persons residing on the Turkish side of the recently demarcated border were Turkish subjects and liable to the jurisdiction and revenue demands of Turkish authority only, whereas persons residing within British-protected territory were, *ipso facto*, relieved of any further liability to Turkish authority.

3. A settlement on these broad general lines would appear the simplest solution of the difficulties which Major Jacob refers to.

Inclosure 3 in No. 39

Extract from Note, dated January 10, 1906, by Major Jacob, Political Officer, Dthala

1. Amir was then reminded of the prime duty before him, viz., the pacification and reconciliation to his house of some of the more dissatisfied tribesmen, and that this was while the British were in his country.

2. He explained to the Resident that there were occasional cross-disputes where the plaintiff was referred to the Courts at Kataba or Dthala, as the case might be, and he added that the Turkish officials were always most ready to give satisfaction. There were, it is true, a few outstanding cases, and the recent change of Katmakam at Kataba had obviously delayed their settlement, but the Political Officer promised to ensure that in a short time no ground of complaint would remain on either side, that

disputes, and a good deal of correspondence had taken place between himself and the Katmakam of Kataba. If the latter officer were unable for any reason to satisfy the Amir, the Mutawarrif's Court at Tala was addressed. If this latter could not, or would not comply, the Political Officer would report the circumstances to the

When asked to detail any grievance he might have, the Amir replied he would bring the same to the notice of the Resident's representative at Dthala.

Inclosure 4 in No. 39.

Captain Hancock to Major Jacob.

(Confidential.)

Dear Jacob,

Aden Residency, January 24, 1906.

WITH reference to your notes, dated the 10th instant, on the Political Resident's last tour to Dthala, I am to ask you for further notes concerning the disputes over the border, in which the Amir of Dthala is concerned, as well as the disputes on our side of the border which concern Turkish subjects or officials.

I am to ask you to attach references with your notes, so as to make the position perfectly clear for reference to Government if necessary.

Meanwhile, I am to say that General Mason does not quite understand your having engaged in direct correspondence with the Turkish authorities over the border without previous reference to him, and to request that this may be explained, and the necessity for the same remarked upon.

Turkish officials correspond fairly readily with their head-quarters at Constanti-

nople, and in view of this, General Mason, of course, desires to be kept fully cognizant of all your correspondence with them, and also that, as a general rule, they should not be addressed except upon his instructions.

(Signed)

F. DE B. HANCOCK, Captain,
Acting First Assistant Resident at Aden

Inclosure 5 in No. 39

Major Jacob to Captain Hancock

present constituted, but in any case, the Turkish subjects have claims of tribes from lands on the opposite side of the border, as drawn, separated, and arranged, as my relations with the border officials are all

2. I believe Government is considering the advisability of making the Officer at Dthala the referee in all such border suits, but until this point be settled it is not possible for me actively to interfere.

3. The procedure hitherto in vogue, and handed down to me by my predecessor in

The Amir, say, writes to me in his court. There has always been it is not that land alone has given rise to these claims. In the Kataba court the

plaintiff had best appear in his court. I advise the Amir, after hearing the case, reports to me the result. I am, if least asked, again urges a reference on certain points unmediated. Oftentimes the Katmakam will admit the general correctness of the Amir's contention, but will not do so with a cross-complaint. He is then told to refer his subject to the Amir's Court.

In this way affairs have proceeded smoothly enough, and the late Katmakam had

the business of the Amir's court. If matters cannot be adjusted by the Amir to the Amir's satisfaction, and it, *prima facie*, is not, and reference is made to the Resident at Aden, notably in the case of Turkish encroachment at Habul-al-Khadthar. The Amir's claim to

carried up through Kataba is the most common. The Amir's claim to the Amir's court, and settlement was further delayed by the resignation at this time of Foham Katmakam of Kataba.

To return to the point of my intervention, by custom established, the Political Officer, powers delegated by the Resident, whom he represents on the frontier, and it is more economical, expedient, and fitting, in my opinion, should continue to act direct with the Turkish officials across the line, reference to Aden being reserved for stubborn cases.

I would suggest, for consideration of the Resident and Government, that the Residency be furnished with half-yearly returns, showing—

- The nature of the claims on either side.
- The manner of disposal.
- The number still pending for disposal, and
- Remarks by the Political Officer as to the means to be adopted.

(Signed)

H. F. JACOB, Captain,
Political Officer, Dthala

Salak, February 8, 1906.

(Confidential)

Forwarded, with compliments, to the First Assistant Resident, Aden, for the information of the Resident (vide Confidential letter on the subject).

Signed)

Sulrik, February 8, 1906.

H. F. JACOB, Major

Political Officer, Dhala

Sheet (A).

(Confidential)

1. There are in the hands of Bani Fadhal and Ahl-al-'Od, of the district of Kataba, some lands, arable, cash in dollars, and some grain belonging to the Basus of all Mur (Amir). The Amir has written to me on this subject, and I have already some months ago written to the Turks, but up to date received no reply. Total claim, some 8,000 dollars.

2. Yahya Bin Hassan of Muthanna of Dhala 25 qadabs of grain, worth 650 dollars. by him, 11 dollars. I think there exists a cross-complaint.

3. 'Abdul Wahhab Attam, of al-'Atharab of Eh, owes Fara' Muthanna of Dhala 120 dollars.

4. Qadthi Yahya-al-Guma'i of Nagd-al-Guma'i owes 'Ali Abdul Rab of Dhala 140 dollars.

5. Sheikh Mus'ed Gawayas of 'Amara, of the district of Kataba, owes Ahl Ahmed, Ahl-al-Fagara and Ahl Zubair of Dhala 441 qadabs of grain, which were kept by them for safe custody. There is also due by him 6 camels and 20 qadabs of grain, which were robbed on the trade route by him. The camels were stolen with their loads.

6. Al Qarim, of 'Amara owes Ahl Lakamat-al-Ashab and Ahl Sanah 20 dollars and a donkey worth 20 dollars.

7. There is with al-Khalladi of al-Haiqi, of the village of Sakah, of the district of Kataba, a she-camel belonging to Shust of Jahia.

8. There is due by Battash of Ar-Ra'uf of al-Haiqi, of the district of Kataba, to Ahl Shi'b al-Awad 30 dollars, and 12 dollars to Ahl Ar-Rabat.

9. There is due by Mahomed Fara' of al-Naiqi, of the district of Kataba, 84 dollars to Ahmad Hulwani. I have asked the Amir to send this man to Kataba, as the case was a judicial one, but there appears to have been no action taken by him.

10. Sheikh Qasid Sa'id and Sheikh Qasim Isma'il, of Kataba, owe Haj Moham Sa'id 100 dollars.

11. There are still about eight camels out of a total of thirty-two with the Turks. They were impressed by them lately during the reinforcements made, and passing through Kataba. The eight camels were returned about two months after they were commandeered by the Turks. I have pressed the Kaimakam for settlement.

F. CHURCHILL, Lieutenant-Colonel,

Acting Political Officer, Dhala

Dhala, February 20, 1906.

Inclosure B in No. 39

Major Jacob to Captain Humeock

(Confidential)

Aden, February 10, 1906.

IN continuation of my Confidential letter of the 8th instant, I have the honour to state I have again this day interrogated the Amir of Dhala with reference to the disputes across the border. The exact cause for possession and claims of the nature of royalties is as follows:—

... have fallen to the opposite side. The cultivators transfer their own allegiance to their respective and original over-lords, but pay tithes only to the Chief or Sheikh into whose territory their fields have by delimitation drifted. The royalty thus claimed has been on both sides by custom fixed at 1 katalah of grain in every 10. The Sheikh of Kataba, one Najd Sa'id, and Kasid Mubkil-al-Yubi, have now, says the Amir, begun to demand 9 katalahs, or in some cases even 10, from the subjects of the Amir situated within their (Turkish) limits. To this Amir Shaif naturally demurs, both on the ground of championing his people's cause and, further, because his own revenues will thereby fall below the average.

3. Some rectification, of the line, but of the rights of transfer on each side, is an imperative necessity, but the

taxation to which they would be subjected on their own side, and any other convenient methods of collection as practised by the Amir of Dhala.

Grazing and pasturage rights on each side the border have offered no difficulties at all, things are running smoothly.

4. These are the disputes to which I especially refer in the second paragraph of my letter of the 8th instant.

5. The cases instanced in paragraph 3 and sheet (A) have their origin in commercial dealings, and in these matters, in my opinion, the plaintiff is more properly referred to the Court of the jurisdiction to which the defendant belongs.

(19105)

No. 40.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 5.)

(No. 372.)

Constantinople, May 29, 1906

Sir, WITH reference to my despatch No. 292 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to inform you that the Amir of Dhala, who was appointed to the post of the Sultan, to whom His Majesty the Sultan sent a message confirming him in his father's place, I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONNOR

Inclosure in No. 40.

Consul Crow to Sir N. O'Connor

No 27)

Hammah, May 2, 1906

Sir,

WITH reference to my telegram No. 35 of the 25th April last, reporting the death of the Amir of Shannar, I have the honour to state that according to the report received from Hammah, a severe fight occurred at Rodath-Makent some seven hours from Hareyda, on the 15th September, 1905, in which the Amir was killed and his followers annihilated.

It is stated that nineteen men were killed and twenty-eight wounded on the side of the Amir.

The Amir was immediately succeeded by his son, who was appointed by the Sultan's orders to the Vilayet of Basrah.

On the 20th April the Sultan's orders were issued appointing the Amir of Basrah to the post of the Amir of Shannar, and that he (Metash) was appointed by the Sultan to his father's place, and continued to live.

Metash is said to be 18 years old.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. E. CROW.

(18125)

No. 41.

Foreign Office to India Office.

Foreign Office, June 5, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letters of the 19th and 23rd ultimo I am directed by the Secretary of State to forward to you herewith, to be laid before Mr. Secretary of State, copy of a despatch of the 11th ultimo, in which the Amir of Shannar is mentioned, and that he (Metash) was appointed by the Sultan to his father's place, and continued to live.

No. 35.

I am to state that Sir E. Grey concurs in the suggestion contained in your letter of the 23rd instant that the Political Agent at Koweit should be instructed to advise the Sheikh to bring the new flag into use

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GORST.

[19549]

No. 42.

Memorandum communicated by the Italian Embassy, June 7, 1906

THE Italian Government have been for some time past rather preoccupied by the news that have reached them of disturbances in the Yemen. Apart from the possibility of such disturbances becoming so grave as to imperil the present *status quo* of the region, the chief reason of the Italian Government's uneasiness is that the present situation of affairs renders it impossible to expect any efficacious action to be taken by the British Government. They therefore would like to ascertain whether the British Government could concur in their opinion that it would be imperatively necessary for each Power interested in the safety of the Red Sea to be intrusted with the surveillance of the part of the Arabian coast which faces its African possessions.

If such a suggestion could be agreed to, Italy could take charge of the Islands of Hanish and Gebel Zucur by sending there a certain number of Askaris, whose presence would be sufficient to deter slave traders and pirates, without being necessary to diminish the Turkish garrison, and so to lessen the Turkish prestige in the region.

Italian Chargé d'Affaires, whilst expressing in a preliminary way the foregoing ideas and suggestions of his Government, would be glad to learn the opinion of the British Government on the subject, and at the same time to receive a communication of the latest news that may have reached here as to the state of affairs in the Yemen.

He is also instructed to communicate to the Foreign Office a copy of the correspondence between the Italian Government and the Turkish Government and the Consul at Hodeidah respecting certain propositions that have been made by Ferid Pasha to Cavaliere Sola, and on which, too, the point of view of the British Government would be gladly learnt at Rome.

20, Grosvenor Square, W.
June 5, 1906

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Report of March 28, 1906, of the Italian Consul-General at Hodeidah to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Your Excellency,

WITH reference to the concluding portion of my Report of the 1st February, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that, in the course of an interview which I had the day before yesterday with Ferik Ferid Pasha, he told me that the three gun-boats destined for police service in the Red Sea, which have been so long expected, have at last arrived. They are the "Adramite," "Yorgate," and "Kastamuni." The latter is already anchored in this roadstead, and the other two stopped at Camaran for some necessities. A new Commodore has also arrived, who, as the above-mentioned President of the Commission of Inquiry assures me, will be able, under his (Ferid Pasha's) constant supervision, to direct this delicate service in such a way as to give full satisfaction to the most important requirements. Ferid Pasha spoke to me for a long time in this sense with regard to the methods to be adopted in carrying out this service in the matter of the foreign sambouks sailing in the Red Sea, referring clearly to the orders given by the local authorities to the Officer Commanding the fleet in the Red Sea, on the occasion of the incident which occurred in July 1905 to the Erythraean sambouk "Asad" in the waters of Giza—orders to the effect that the Commanders of the Ottoman gun-boats were not to approach Italian or other foreign sambouks while navigating.

Ferid Pasha, who considers with reason that the service of the gun-boats in the Red Sea, especially in the Arabian Coast, cannot possibly be efficient unless the Imperial vessels are allowed to approach with proper courtesy, and with the marks of respect laid down by international law and custom, the sambouks they may meet at sea, in order to ascertain the real nationality of the latter and whether their papers are in order, as well as the nature of the cargo, makes the following requests in this connection:—

1. That the Turkish gun-boats should have the right during their cruise to stop and visit sambouks by day or by night, whose appearance seems suspicious to the Commanders of the Turkish vessels. But at the same time the Turkish Commanders gave me the firmest assurances that such visits to the sambouks would be made by the Turkish Commanders with all the precautions required by the case.

2. That in the event of a sambouk being caught in the act of smuggling on the coast, confiscation of the goods smuggled should be allowed and the sambouk taken to the nearest Italian Consulate for the ultimate development of the case by the competent Tribunal.

Without making any definite statement, I told Ferid Pasha that no one would ever have proposed the stopping of the Turkish gun-boats should stop and visit sambouks in the Red Sea, as it was necessary to the proper working of the cruise service on the Arabian coast. As for the reports of complaints and the legitimate irritation caused by the arbitrary and illegal measures which were always occasioned by the arbitrary and illegal measures of the Turkish gun-boats.

I also spoke of the fact that the Turkish gun-boats were not allowed to stop and visit sambouks in the Red Sea, as it was necessary to the proper working of the cruise service on the Arabian coast. As for the reports of complaints and the legitimate irritation caused by the arbitrary and illegal measures of the Turkish gun-boats.

I also spoke of the fact that the Turkish gun-boats were not allowed to stop and visit sambouks in the Red Sea, as it was necessary to the proper working of the cruise service on the Arabian coast. As for the reports of complaints and the legitimate irritation caused by the arbitrary and illegal measures of the Turkish gun-boats.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SOLA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Italian Consul-General at Hodeidah.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of your Report of the 28th March last, and to confirm the telegram which I addressed to you on the 3rd instant.

In your telegram of the 10th instant you informed me that the proposals of Ferid Pasha, which you specified in your Report, had been approved by the Italian Government. I have to inform you that the Italian Government has decided to accept the proposals of Ferid Pasha, which you specified in your Report, and to inform you that the Italian Government has decided to accept the proposals of Ferid Pasha, which you specified in your Report.

I have to inform you that the Italian Government has decided to accept the proposals of Ferid Pasha, which you specified in your Report, and to inform you that the Italian Government has decided to accept the proposals of Ferid Pasha, which you specified in your Report.

These proposals, in fact, barely concern the claim already put forward by the Italian Government in 1890, on the occasion of the controversy with regard to papers of nationality, that the natives of Massowah should be considered as Turkish subjects, a claim which was also maintained subsequently.

Ferid Pasha cannot reasonably insist thereon, alleging in support of his views the provisions of the General Act of Brussels, which had no application to any part of Turkey, and ought not at the present time to have any application to any part of Turkey, and ought not at the present time to have any application to any part of Turkey.

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It is known, on the other hand, that all the piratical sambouks serve the Turkish flag, and can provide themselves when they wish with bullet-proof armor, the Turks, and others, and the Turkish sailors are a great number of them, and are not to be trusted.

1. Turkish gun-boats can, however, perform a really useful duty in suppressing piracy and other lawless activities in the Aegean Sea.

I am writing to you to let you know that I have received your letter of the 10th of the month and I am glad to hear from you. I am well and hope this letter finds you the same. I am looking forward to hearing from you again soon.

1114. Se

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Ind. a copy to Foreign Office - (Received June 2)

India Office, June 11, 1908.

Lockmore 1 in No. 43.

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

Homburg Castle, March 28, 1906.

2. In transmitting these papers, I am to state that Government approve of the suggestion contained in paragraph 3 of the Resident's letter, and to observe that an effort will be made to secure the safety of British parties which may have occasion to visit the territory in question and a place in the Omdurman Treaty.

Inclosure 2 in No. 43.

Major-General Mason to Government of Bombay.

Adm. Residency, March 11, 1908.

And I also inclose copy of a letter addressed by Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rases, to Haji Abdulala bin Uragan the Aden merchant referred to in this Office Confidential.

2. From the above it appears that Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, desires that negotiations should now be continued through Sheikh Ahmed Husen-bin-Ahmed Am Hubakt, the Azzani Sheikh, between whom and the former rival Sheikh Abdurrah-bm-Saleh bin Musa, the Hamakani, some misunderstanding would now appear to have been arrived at.

4. Meanwhile I have the honour to inclose, for the approval of Government, which I have the honour to request may be communicated at the earliest possible date, the English version of a letter which was addressed to the Secretary to Government referred to in Government of India telegram dated the 20th February, 1908.

referred to in Government of India telegram dated the 20th February, 1950.

Inclosure 3 in No. 43.

Sulton Ali-bin-Ahmed to Major-General Moson.

(Alter compliments.)

Any assistance you may grant us may be remitted through Am Uragua
May you be preserved

Inclosure 4 in No. 4.

Sheikh Abderrab-bin-Saleh Am Musu to Major-General Mason.

After compliments)

After compliments, WE have received your letter, and we had sent you a letter. If you inquire about our health, we are prosperous, we hope you are the same. As regards our affairs there is no excuse about our coming. We have endeavoured in the matter, and ultimately we have come to an understanding and made promises. We were coming, and had only to communicate to you the time of our departure. But there happened rain and flood in the country, and it was impossible for us to go. After they make things in proper order they are coming. We wanted to send you out a silver vase, which was a very fine one, made from Am Rasas, the brother of Ali-bin-Ahmed. This vase was an excellent one that it has no equal. He wanted to go with it either towards the Turks or Aden; we

overtook him, and recovered it from him. He has spoiled their arrangement. Had it not been for the mare of Am Rasasi they would have come. They are still in confusion about this lost of the mare. We shall come down after they arrive here.
O friend, we want a magazine rifle of six shots. We require it in addition to those you will give us and the Sultan; God willing, we will bring him to you.

Inclosure 5 in No. 43

Sultan Ahmed-bin-Husen to Captain Hancock.

Moharrum 1324 (Moreh 1906)

WE inform your Honour that we have received your esteemed letter and understood its contents. You have intimated to us that his Honour General Mason will not come to Shugra unless the reply of the Rasasi was received. O friend! we have received a letter to-day from Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed which we herewith forward for your perusal. You may decide as to what you deem suitable (good). Your reply is requested. We have come to know that messengers have been dispatched to you with letters containing definite information from the Rasasi and Humakant. If they have written to you about their coming please inform us when it will be and if they are not coming soon. May you be preserved.

Inclosure 6 in No. 43.

Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed to Sultan Ahmed-bin-Husen

(After compliments.) [Undated.]
WE have received your kind letter and understood its contents. You state that there has been correspondence between us and the Europeans. That is correct. They (Government) desire that a meeting should take place between them and us at Shugra, but we are not willing unless Ahmed-bin-Husen and Sheikh Ahmed-Husen should ascertain about our stipend, present, and ammunition, as well as the benefit of our brothers and tribesmen. Please inquire into all the affairs between the Europeans and us, and that we should meet at your place at Shugra. The negotiation may be concluded through Sheikh Ahmed-Husen as he and the Humakant listen to each other. Please let us know what is arranged.

Inclosure 7 in No. 43

Sultan Ali-bin-Ahmed to Sultan Hayy Abdulla Am Urager

(After compliments.) [Undated.]
WE have dispatched a letter to the British Government and a letter to Sultan Ahmed-bin-Husen, in reply to the one we have received from him (the latter). He stated that he came to know that there has been communication between the British Government and us concerning a meeting which is to be held between us, and we wrote to him that who can say to him that there are Chiefs of the Shafi creed other than ourselves and the Fadthli. If the Fadthli would act on our behalf well and good, otherwise we ourselves will meet him face to face. We wrote to him that we are not as the other Chiefs, and requested him to ascertain the particulars about our stipend, present, arms, and ammunition. We are not on the same footing as the Chiefs, who are inferior to us. He may inquire into the matters and may treat our interest as his own.
As to the letter of the Sirkar, you may explain verbally what is insufficiently supplied thereon. All the management of our affairs is now left to Sheikh Ahmed-Husen-bin-Ahmed Am Babakr, with whom you may consult, as he and the Humakant are working in harmony. Some one will come to you on behalf of Ahmed-Husen to discuss the matter of the stipend, present, arms, and ammunition, and to see to the interest of our brothers and Sheikhs. You are not unaware of all these things. We are coming to Beda. You must have heard of the damage we have sustained.

A camel of ours was killed, and we were much disappointed by committal of the act. We will incur expenses on account of this event. We request you to send us what the Government may feel inclined to bestow on us. What you will tell the Sirkar is sufficient. As to ourselves, as soon as you settle the matters we will not delay our son for an hour. The meeting may take place at Shugra.
Please do not detain the Sayad and give him present.

Inclosure 8 in No. 43.

Protectorate Treaty with the Rasasi Sultans of the Banyardth

THE British Government and Sultans Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and Alawi-bin-Husen, the Rasasi, being desirous of entering into relations of peace and friendship; The said Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and Alawi-bin-Husen, the Rasasi, aforesaid, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

I
There shall be peace and friendship between the British Government and all the Sultans of the Banyardth and its dependencies shall be free to enter the territories of the other. The said Sultans shall have the right to trade with the British Government and its dependencies and to receive from the British Government the same treatment and respect as is given to carry arms.

II
In compliance with the wish of the aforesaid Sultans Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and Alawi-bin-Husen, the Rasasi, the British Government hereby undertakes to extend the territory of the Banyardth and all its dependencies, being under the authority and jurisdiction of the British Government, and to protect the Majesty the King of England.

III
The said Sultans Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and Alawi-bin-Husen, the Rasasi, hereby agree and promise on behalf of themselves, their heirs and successors, and the said Sultans, their heirs and successors, that they will not cede, or transfer, or lease, or give, or otherwise dispose of the territory of the Banyardth and its dependencies, or any part of the same, at any time to any Power other than the British Government.

IV
The said Sultans Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and Alawi-bin-Husen, the Rasasi, hereby agree and promise on behalf of themselves, their heirs and successors, that they will not cede, or transfer, or lease, or give, or otherwise dispose of the territory of the Banyardth and its dependencies, or any part of the same, at any time to any Power other than the British Government.

V
The said Sultans Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, further promise, on behalf of themselves, their heirs and successors, and their tribesmen, subjects, and dependents, that they will keep open the trade routes of the Banyardth and its dependencies, and will not obstruct or hinder the same, and will assist and protect any British party which may have occasion to pass through their territory.
[1859]

VI

The said Sultans Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and Alawi-bin-Husen, the Rasasi, also engage on behalf of themselves, their heirs and successors, and all their tribesmen, subjects, and dependents, to maintain any boundary which may hereafter be demarcated between their territory or that of any of its dependencies and Turkish territory, and to protect any boundary pillars which may be erected.

VII.

Further, the said Sultans Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and Alawi-bin-Husen, the Rasasi, undertake, on behalf of themselves, their heirs and successors, to maintain order within the boundary of the territory of the Banyardth and its dependencies under their jurisdiction, and to restrain their tribesmen from creating disturbances either in their own territory or in the country beyond the boundary line, and from interfering with the tribes who are subjects of the Turkish Government.

VIII.

In consideration of these undertakings and engagements the British Government agree to pay to the said Sultans Ali-bin-Ahmed, the Rasasi, and Alawi-bin-Husen, the Rasasi, and to their heirs and successors a monthly sum of _____ dollars, the half of which is _____ dollars.

IX.

The above Treaty shall have effect from this date. In witness thereof the Under-
signed have affixed their signatures or seals at _____ this the _____ day of
March in the year 1906.

Inclosure 9 in No. 43.

Government of India to Government of Bombay.

Sindia, April 28, 1906.

I AM directed to refer to your letter dated 11th March 1906, forwarding a Report, with inclosures, from the Political Resident, Aden, on the subject of the proposed Treaty with the Rasasi Sultans of the Banyardth.

2. In accordance with the instructions contained in Government of India telegram dated the 20th February, 1906, the Political Resident has included in the draft Treaty framed by him a provision under which the Chiefs would be held responsible for the safety of British parties which might have occasion to visit their territories. The Resident has, however, now suggested that the provision in question should be omitted from the Treaty, on the ground that its retention might lead to difficulty in negotiation, while the provisions already included in clause 1 of the draft Treaty, which provides for freedom of intercourse, might be held to secure the desired object.

The Bombay Government support this proposal, and observe at the same time that an express clause guaranteeing the safety of British parties under similar conditions does not find a place in the Dthala Treaty.

3. In reply, I am to say that the Government of India do not desire to press for the inclusion in the Treaty of the proposed provision, but I am to suggest that, if the Governor in Council sees no objection, the movement of a British party within the territories subject to the Sheikh might be specially provided for by an exchange of notes, or even verbally, at the time of negotiating the Treaty, though, of course, no such party would be sent without a special reference to Government.

63

19072.

No. 44

Sir Edward Grey to Sir N. O'Connor

(No. 97)

(Telegraphic) P.

Foreign Office, June 7, 1906.

WITH reference to your telegram No. 133 of the 2nd instant: Arab attack on Messrs. Lynch's steam-ship "Khalifa."

It is undesirable for His Majesty's ship "Comet" not to act as escort, and for the Turkish Government to have the full responsibility of policing the river.

[19951]

No. 45.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 11.)

(No. 397.)

Constantinople, June 1, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 125 of the 27th February, I have the honour to forward herewith a despatch from the Military Attaché at Sir F. Jans reporting on the discontent prevalent among the Turkish troops in the Yemen.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONNOR.

Inclosure in No. 45

Colonel Surtees to Sir N. O'Connor

(No. 33.)

Constantinople, June 1, 1906.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that information has reached me from a sure source to the effect that, owing to the scarcity of provisions the troops in Sanua and the neighbouring stations have refused to obey the orders of Feizi, the Commander-in-chief.

The latter has reported the matter to Constantinople, adding that he is powerless to act until the arrival of _____ with whom he says "it is impossible to settle the business."

The condition of affairs in the Yemen appears to be going from bad to worse, and the troops have begun to question the authority of Feizi, which is a bad sign, as it has been generally recognized that the campaign has not proved utterly disastrous to the Ottoman troops.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. CONYERS SURTEES, Colonel,
Military Attaché

[20062]

No. 46.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 12.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of inclosure a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 24th May, relative to the Muscat Arbitration Award.

India Office, June 11, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

Major Grey to Government of India.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Muscat, May 15, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for your information, a copy of letter dated the 15th instant which I have addressed to the Political Resident, the Persian Gulf, Bushire.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. GREY,
Officiating Political Agent.

Inclosure 2 in No. 46

Major Grey to Political Resident, Bushire.

Sir,

Muscat May 15, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to refer to telegram dated the 14th instant from the Government of India in the Foreign Department to my address. I am directed therein to submit a brief report of the net result of my negotiations with M. Laronce, in connection with the Arbitration Award in the French flag difficulty.

2. M. Laronce and I were directed (1) to consult as to the best method of making known to the subjects of His Highness the Sultan of Oman the result of the arbitration, and (2) to make out a list of such persons who are heretofore to be entitled to fly French flags in accordance with the terms of the award.

With reference to (1), we agree that the result of the arbitration should be communicated by His Highness the Sultan to his subjects by means of a Proclamation to be issued by him.

In regard to (2), we are unable to agree as to the list of persons who are to be entitled to fly French flags according to the terms of the award. The reasons for our lack of consent in this matter are:—

(1.) M. Laronce holds that authorization to fly the French flag was given to each and every owner once for all, that is to say, for every dhow of which he might subsequently become the possessor, whereas I hold, in accordance with instructions received, that authorization was given in regard to individual dhows only. M. Laronce professes to be unable to inform me as to the date on which each individual dhow obtained her first *titre de navigation*.

(2.) M. Laronce maintains that his Government will be obliged to insist not only upon their views in regard to point (1) being accepted by us, but also that each unauthorized dhow owner should be allowed to replace any dhow at present in his possession, of which he might subsequently become dispossessed by sale or by loss.

(3.) M. Laronce wishes not only that all the dhows named in his list should be registered as being the property of the persons against whose names they have been entered. As a result of careful inquiry I have found (1) that some of the dhow owners are not, according to our view, entitled to authorization, as they do not actually possess a dhow at the present time, and (2) that many of the dhows are not the property of the persons against whose names they have been entered.

(4.) M. Laronce has not accepted the views of His Majesty's Government in regard to the four subjects of His Highness the Sultan, for whom protection in Zanzibar has been obtained by the French according to the Anglo-French Agreement of the 13th May, 1904 (Nos. 17-20 in the French list above referred to). He has referred this point to his Government.

(5.) With respect to the French list might, in my opinion, be regarded as French protégés in Oman; but M. Laronce could not agree to my proposal that their position as such should be accepted by us in exchange for the views of His Majesty's Government in regard to Nos. 17-20 being accepted by the French.

It is impossible to formulate the Proclamation to be issued by the Sultan until

the list of owners and dhows has been agreed upon, and the exact conditions in which the French flag is to be flown by them have been fixed.

3. A copy of this letter has been forwarded to the Government of India in the Foreign Department.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. GREY.

[20357]

No. 47.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 15.)

Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, a copy of a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, dated 14th May, relative to affairs in the Aden Hinterland.

India Office, June 14, 1906.

Inclosure 1 in No. 47

Governor of Bombay to Government of India

Bombay Castle, April 27, 1906.

IN reply to a letter from the Secretary of State for India, dated 14th April, 1906, and of its inclosure, from the Political Resident, Aden, dated 15th April, 1906, and of its inclosure, regarding a raiding expedition into Turkish territory by a party of the tribe of Subash.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. W. EDGERLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 47

Sheikh Ali-bin-Ahmed-um-Tomi, the Barkani, to Political Resident, Aden

(A copy of this letter was forwarded to the Secretary of State for India by the Political Resident, Aden, dated 15th April, 1906, and of its inclosure, from the Political Resident, Aden, dated 15th April, 1906, and of its inclosure, regarding a raiding expedition into Turkish territory by a party of the tribe of Subash.)

The Barkani espoused the cause of the above tribes, and combined together. We are now awaiting what may come to us from them. Thus our country. We therefore ask from your Honour an assistance, as we are now awaiting what may come to us from them. If you are disposed to give us, please send us a reply, as we are now awaiting what may come to us from them.

The seal was not forthcoming.

Copy forwarded, with compliments, to the Secretary to Government in the Political Department with reference to correspondence ending with his letter dated the 14th April 1906. The Barkani Sheikh was written to on the 20th February 1906, and a copy of his reply was forwarded to the Secretary to Government in the Political Department on the 20th March 1906. A copy of the letter from the Political Resident, Aden, dated 15th April 1906, and of its inclosure, regarding a raiding expedition into Turkish territory by a party of the tribe of Subash, is also forwarded for the information of the Secretary to Government in the Political Department.

2. The Sheikh is now at Lahej, and is said to be about to visit Aden, when he will be again informed in the above sense.

(Signed)

C. T. BECHER, Colonel,
Officiating Political Resident at Aden.

Aden Residency, April 15, 1906.

[20670]

No. 45.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 18.)

(No. 400. Confidential.)

Sir,

Thessalonica, June 11, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatches No. 292 of the 1st May and No. 309 of the 1st June, relative to the defeat and death of Abdul Aziz bin Rashid at Hama, I have received from the Acting Consul at Mecca, reporting the arrival of two messengers from Bin Saoud with letters for the Grand Sherif of Mecca and the Vali of Hedjaz.

It would appear that after his successful encounter with the Emir of N. Bin Saoud has proclaimed himself ruler of the whole "Shark" (Fest) and has sent letters to the Vali of Hedjaz and the Grand Sherif.

As His Majesty's Acting Consul reports that the two messengers who arrived at Jeddah had left for Yembo, and that the rumours are current that Bin Saoud has proclaimed himself ruler of the whole "Shark" (Fest) and has sent letters to the Vali of Hedjaz and the Grand Sherif, I am forwarding a copy of the despatch in this despatch to the Earl of Cromer.

What importance is to be attached to Bin Saoud's communication cannot be stated at present, but, so far as his character is actually known, neither his military power nor his political influence is to be reckoned on. The development of the question, however, deserves to be carefully watched.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONNOR.

Inclosure in No. 45.

Acting Consul Hussein to Sir N. O'Connor

N. 251

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 27th inst. and in reply to inform you that I have been instructed by the Acting Consul at Mecca to forward to you a copy of the despatch of the 27th inst. and in reply to inform you that I have been instructed by the Acting Consul at Mecca to forward to you a copy of the despatch of the 27th inst.

A copy of the despatch of the 27th inst. has been forwarded to you by the Acting Consul at Mecca, and I have been instructed by the Acting Consul at Mecca to forward to you a copy of the despatch of the 27th inst.

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A copy of the despatch of the 27th inst. has been forwarded to you by the Acting Consul at Mecca, and I have been instructed by the Acting Consul at Mecca to forward to you a copy of the despatch of the 27th inst.

On receiving the news Bin Saoud lost no time in marching swiftly to attack Bin Rashid. Bin Rashid was overtaken by him next night while Bin Rashid was in a state of perfect sense of security against any attack from an enemy.

A sudden charge of Bin Saoud created unmanageable confusion and panic in the ranks of Bin Rashid's followers. Bin Rashid was killed, and his head was cut off, and for six days paraded on a pole among the neighbouring tribes.

Bin Rashid's presence having been found out, a concentrated deadly fire was poured at him, and everything was over in a few minutes.

Bin Rashid was found among the dead, and his head was cut off, and for six days paraded on a pole among the neighbouring tribes.

It is reported that Bin Rashid's own son and one cousin were also killed, but the news is not confirmed.

After this success Bin Saoud has declared himself the ruler of whole "Shark," and has sent letters to the Vali of Hedjaz, the Grand Sherif, and his Highness the Grand Sherif.

The messengers were well received here both by the Vali and the Grand Sherif, and were rewarded with Khilats in the usual way.

The messengers have left for Yembo, and it is rumoured that they have orders to proceed to Egypt, and have a letter addressed to the Khedive.

I have, &c.

(Signed) MOHAMMED HUSSEIN

P.S. It is hardly believed here that 250 men were killed with Bin Rashid, as the fighting did not last more than a few minutes.

M. H.

[20871]

No. 49.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 18.)

(No. 401. Confidential.)

Sir,

Constantinople, June 12, 1906

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two Reports on the Hedjaz Railway. The first is a Confidential Report furnished me by Mr. Th. Loino, British Vice-Consul at Meccina, from information supplied to him by his son, Mr. M. Loino, who has been employed as engineer on the construction of the line.

The second Report is the work of a German engineer, Herr Otto von Kapp, who has been employed as engineer on the construction of the line. The Report is in the possession of His Majesty's Embassy, and compared with the information concerning the railway already in the possession of His Majesty's Embassy.

The second Report is the work of a German engineer, Herr Otto von Kapp, who has been employed as engineer on the construction of the line. The Report is in the possession of His Majesty's Embassy, and compared with the information concerning the railway already in the possession of His Majesty's Embassy.

This Report was published in English in the weekly edition of the "Levant Herald."

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 49.

Report by Vice-Consul Loino

THE accomplishment of a line of rail that should lead to Mecca has for a long time been a subject of interest to the British Government, and with this object steps were taken by his Highness the Emir of Mecca, and with this object steps were taken by his Highness the Emir of Mecca, and with this object steps were taken by his Highness the Emir of Mecca.

The decision to build the line was taken in 1900, and a High Commission was appointed to build the line, and a High Commission was appointed to build the line.

Engines: 28—10 of 70 tons and 16 of 40 tons—and about 200 waggons.
Running speeds. Average speed, 30 kilom.

Inclosure 2 in No. 49

Sketch Map and List of Stations

Inclosure 3 in No. 49.

Report on the Hedjaz Railway, by Herr von Kapp Koblitz.

[illegible]

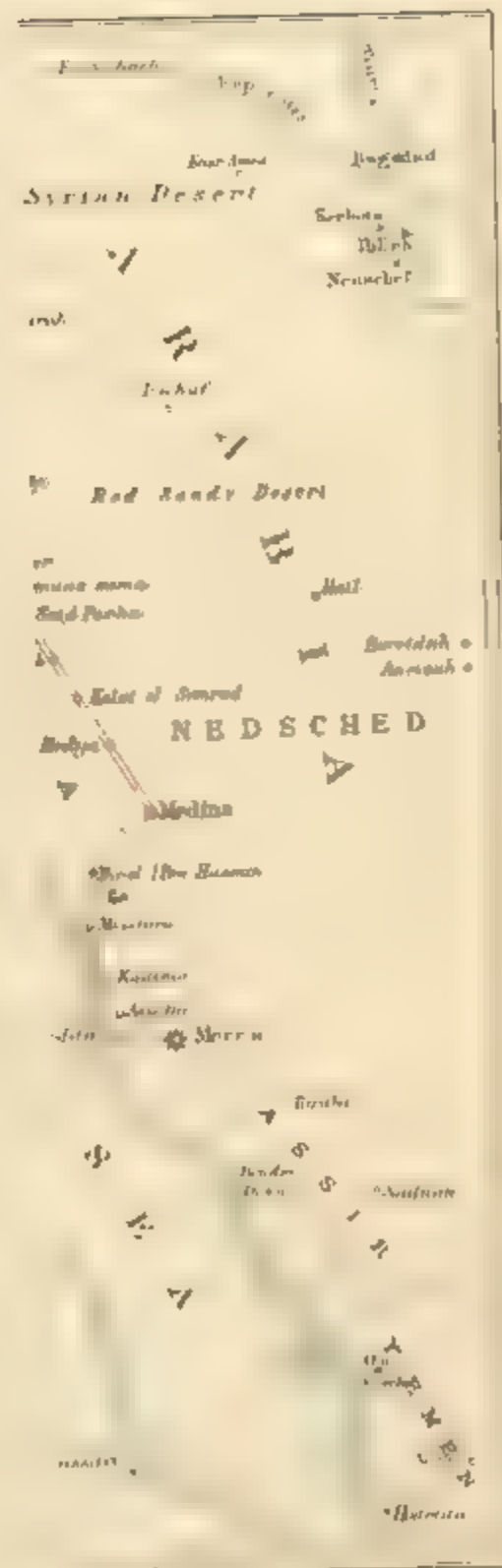
So, I thought it was better to report the work as it is, and let the High Commission decide whether to draw up the following Report and present it to the High Commission. Before so doing, a few remarks relative to the organization may not be out of place:-

In conformity with the Imperial will, the local Commission, under the leadership of the local Engineer-in-Chief, has been organized and is now working with great zeal shown by the local Commission and the loyal efforts of his Excellency Nazim Pasha, the Wali, who is the President of the local Commission, to carry out the local project. Moreover, the technical efforts of the civil engineers and of the officers in command of the Imperial troops employed on the line afford a striking example of the administrative powers of His Excellency Nazim Pasha.

I need not dwell upon the merits of Herr Mosner, Chief Engineer of the Russian Railway. Throughout his long career, which is now a long one, he has been a most successful and energetic worker. He has been in the service of the Russian Railway for a long time, and he has been a most successful and energetic worker. He has been a little rest, and I hope that the Railway Commission will take my consideration and give him several months' leave of absence, so that he might recruit his health.

ably assisted Herr Meissner, is well qualified to replace him during his absence.

With the exception of Dammacua, Kademi Sherif, Derna, and Marsa Matruh, no harbors have been built, and those cover an area of from 6 metres to 10 metres in width.



One of these buildings is intended for the use of the station-master. This type of building suffices for the needs of the line beyond Oman.

There are twenty-seven stations over a length of 458 kilom. Those between Damascus and Deraa are separated by distances ranging from 7 kilom. to 21 kilom. and those between Deraa and Maan from 11 kilom. to 38 kilom.

Springs exist at the following stations: Damascus, the head of the line; Deraa, at kilom. 127; Zorca, at kilom. 203; Oman, at kilom. 232; El Hassa, at kilom. 378; Maan, at kilom. 458; and Mudereh, at kilom. 572.

At present tank cars are used for the supply of water to the locomotives.

As already stated in my Report of 1901, the scarcity of water can be remedied by sinking artesian wells at 60 kilom. and by building covered cisterns. The demand for water is increasing rapidly, and the Government is endeavoring to the advancement of the operating operations. Thanks, however, to His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, this state of things will soon be remedied.

If the pools, which have existed for centuries, and which serve the nomads for watering their camels, are not covered in, they can only be of little use to the railway. As, however, these pools are shallow and very wide, and the cost of covering them would be enormous, it would be more advantageous to build new cisterns at every 6 kilom. to 7 kilom. The pools at Katran have a capacity of 38,000 cubic metres, and those of Djez6 70,000 cubic metres, but being open, the water evaporates very quickly and both remain dry for months.

On the 6th November, 1905, the line nearly reached kilom. 572, the estimates having been made as far as the 710th kilom.

The estimates were completed to 810 kilom. by the 1st January, 1906, and it is to be expected that they will reach Tebouk, at kilom. 900, by September 1906. (Herr Kapp believes that Tebouk will be reached, but it is to be hoped that by then the line will come near Mudaim Salih.)

The Haifa Section

The idea of pushing the Hadjass Railway as far as the sea, and of finding for it an outlet, led to the repurchase of the Concession which had been previously granted.

Believing that the railway would be extended from Musairib to Mafarek via ~~the~~ ^{by way of} Erenta, Erhaid, and Wady-Arab.

In this way 165 kilom. would have been saved, i.e., 123 + 14 + 8, from Musairib to Mafarek, and 20 from Erenta to Beusana, moreover, Wady-Arab would thus have no more of a gradient than 25 millim. But the Haifa line having followed the valley of the Yarmouk and crossed two rivers with a gradient of 50 millim. and at times curving 125 and 100 metres, the above-named scheme has no more practical importance. To cross the valley of the Yarmouk, the line had to be built, each of 50 metres, as well as several stone bridges, of four girders of a length of 20 + 50 + 30 metres, and arches of 12 metres.

Large sums of money were spent in the stone foundations of these bridges, and it was necessary to buy two locomotives for the pumping operations. Eight tunnels of a length of 1,100 metres were built. Save for the last iron bridge, which will be mounted in the course of January, all the masonry and ironwork has been completed in the course of eight months.

On September, 1904, the line was extended to the sea. The new section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 30 kilom. long; the second section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 30 kilom. long; the third section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the fourth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the fifth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the sixth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the seventh section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the eighth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the ninth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the tenth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the eleventh section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the twelfth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the thirteenth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the fourteenth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the fifteenth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the sixteenth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the seventeenth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the eighteenth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the nineteenth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the twentieth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-first section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-second section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-third section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-fourth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-fifth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-sixth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-seventh section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-eighth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the twenty-ninth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the thirtieth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-first section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-second section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-third section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-fourth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-fifth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-sixth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-seventh section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-eighth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the thirty-ninth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the fortieth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-first section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-second section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-third section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-fourth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-fifth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-sixth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-seventh section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-eighth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the forty-ninth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the fiftieth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-first section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-second section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-third section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-fourth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-fifth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-sixth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-seventh section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-eighth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the fifty-ninth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the sixtieth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-first section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-second section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-third section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-fourth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-fifth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-sixth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-seventh section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-eighth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the sixty-ninth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the seventieth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-first section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-second section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-third section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-fourth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-fifth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-sixth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-seventh section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-eighth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the seventy-ninth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the eightieth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-first section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-second section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-third section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-fourth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-fifth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-sixth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-seventh section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-eighth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the eighty-ninth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the ninetieth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundredth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and first section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and second section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and third section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fourth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventh section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and tenth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eleventh section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twelfth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirteenth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fourteenth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifteenth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixteenth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventeenth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighteenth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and nineteenth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twentieth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-first section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-second section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-third section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-fourth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-fifth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-sixth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-seventh section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-eighth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and twenty-ninth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirtieth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-first section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-second section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-third section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-fourth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-fifth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-sixth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-seventh section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-eighth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and thirty-ninth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fortieth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-first section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-second section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-third section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-fourth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-fifth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-sixth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-seventh section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-eighth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and forty-ninth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fiftieth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-first section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-second section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-third section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-fourth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-fifth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-sixth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-seventh section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-eighth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and fifty-ninth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixtieth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-first section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-second section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-third section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-fourth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-fifth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-sixth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-seventh section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-eighth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and sixty-ninth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventieth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-first section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-second section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-third section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-fourth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-fifth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-sixth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-seventh section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-eighth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and seventy-ninth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eightieth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-first section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-second section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-third section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-fourth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-fifth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-sixth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-seventh section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-eighth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and eighty-ninth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninetieth section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-first section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-second section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-third section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-fourth section, from Mafarek to Beusana, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-fifth section, from Beusana to Erenta, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-sixth section, from Erenta to Erhaid, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-seventh section, from Erhaid to Wady-Arab, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-eighth section, from Wady-Arab to Musairib, is 20 kilom. long; the hundred and ninety-ninth section, from Musairib to Haifa, is 20 kilom. long; the hundredth section, from Haifa to Mafarek, is 20 kilom. long.

Although there is a pier at Haifa, it is proposed to build a convenient quay of 680 metres, with a breakwater of 500 metres, at an estimated cost of 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 fr.

Jeddah-Mecca Section.

To build junctions between Derna and Haifa, or Maan and Akaba, so as to connect the trunk line with the sea, enormous sums would be necessary, whereas there are no such difficulties in the way of connecting Mecca with its port in the Red Sea.

According to Ahmed Moukhtar Bey, the engineer, such a line could be built with a gradient of 20 millim. and curves of 300 metres; its length would be 75 kilom.

For every kilometre of this line there would be 3,000 cubic metres of embankment, 100 cubic metres of masonry to build, and 1,000 cubic metres of ballast to carry. The embankments and ballasting could be done by two battalions of 500 men each within eight months; including the masonry, the line would cost 15,000 fr. per kilom., or in all 1,125,000 fr.; in addition to this, there are the following outlays:—

	Cost.
	Fr.
Cost of the line	1,125,000
General expenses for one year	200,000
Two stone bridges and three reservoirs	200,000
Initial outlay for the port of Jeddah	125,000
Railway material—	
Ballast, at 20,000 fr. per kilom.	1,500,000
Four locomotives of 30 tons	160,000
Fifty waggons of 15 tons, at 4,000 fr.	200,000
Fifteen waggons, at 16,000 fr.	240,000
Total	2,130,000

According to these estimates, the cost per kilometre would be 80,000 fr., and from careful calculations I have estimated that the passenger and goods traffic would eventually bring about 8 per cent. profit.

As I have said before, work on the main line would have reached kilom. 500 by the 1st January, 1906. As Damascus is 950 kilom. from Mudaini Salih, 1,400 kilom. from Medina, and 1,800 kilom. from Mecca, this will serve as a basis for the following notes:—

The works having started on January 1901, the date of Herr Meissner's arrival at Damascus, and having reached kilom. 300 of the trunk line and kilom. 160 of the Haifa section—750 kilom. in all—by the 1st January, 1906, the yearly average works out at 150 kilom. Compared with other railway works, this result is satisfactory.

In order to form an idea of the work done, I append a list of railways I have built in the Ottoman Empire over a length of 1,800 kilom.:—

Name.	Length.	Period of Construction.	Annual Average.
	Kilom.	Years.	Kilom.
Jemidli-Angora	485	4	121
Salonica-Monastir	220	3	73
Salonica-Doiraghaz	510	3	170
Alashkhar-Afion-Kara-Hissar	352	2½	160
Rayak-Sieppa	352	2½	125
Total	1,800	15	100

The construction of the first four lines on the above list was commenced in January 1899, and finished in twelve years, or an annual average of 144 kilom. This shows that the building of 150 kilom. yearly on the Hedjaz Railway is sufficient, and that the idea of building 200 kilom. in a year is contrary to the results hitherto obtained. According to the report of Moukhtar Bey, the Hedjaz line will meet no great obstacles; but as the line gets further away from Damascus and Haifa, the

works of construction will become more difficult, and the water supply will become a question of great importance. Wells will have to be sunk or springs found, as was the case north of Maan.

From the above it may be inferred that the work yet to be done, beginning with January 1906, can be mapped out as follows:—

Names of Section.	Length in Kilometres.	Period of Construction.	Date of Completion.
		Years.	
To Mudaini-Salih	500	2	January 1, 1907.
Medina	500	3	" 1, 1910.
Mecca	1,200	8	" 1, 1913.

It is very difficult to calculate the average expenditure per kilometre for the Damascus-Maan and Haifa-Derna lines, for part of the Haifa section was over most uneven ground, and necessitated supplementary outlay, and the average based on the total expenditure can never be quite correct.

Rolling Stock.

The rolling-stock at present owned by the Hedjaz Railway is the following:—

Locomotives.—Eleven Kraus locomotives with three axles, each of 30 tons and having a capacity of 3½ cubic metres; nine locomotives with four axles, each of 40 tons, and having a capacity of 12½ cubic metres. Four "B" Hohenzollern locomotives.

Waggons.—There are a number of double-axle waggons on their way out, each of 1½ tons weight and able to carry 15 tons; fifteen third-class passenger-cars; one first-class passenger-car and a waggon mosque, built at the Admiralty workshops.

The Commission has, moreover, ordered six locomotives for passenger traffic, with a speed of 45 kilom., and thirteen Kraus locomotives for goods traffic. Thus the Hedjaz Railway owns forty-three locomotives, of which thirty-nine are of modern system, and 400 waggons, including 185 which were recently ordered.

From statistics it is found that the line has so far cost 50,000 fr. per kilom., but this amount does not include the expense incurred for the troops employed on the line.

(The Railway Commission has paid half the cost of the rations, and has occasionally paid for the cost of clothing for the troops. In addition to this, the soldiers and officers were paid 45 paras per cubic metre, and also received a gratuity for each kilom. built. All these expenses have been placed to the Construction Account.)

These accounts may serve as a basis for calculating the cost of building for the remainder of the railway.

At the beginning of 1906 there will remain 1,100 kilom. to be built before Mecca is reached, and this will cost 60,000,000 fr., at the rate of 50,000 fr. per kilom. It will be necessary to build 150 kilom. annually, and the sum of 7,500,000 fr. will be annually required for eight years to come. During the first five years the subscriptions for the line amounted to 17,500,000 fr., that is 3,500,000 fr. per annum. Further, the sale of the skins of sheep sacrificed at Bairam, and the Hedjaz Railway stamp produced 16,000,000 fr. in four years, or 4,000,000 fr. per annum.

The annual income of the railway has been 7,500,000 fr., which amount, as stated above, represents the cost of the building of the line for one year.

Some of the waggons mentioned above are partly covered in, and others are open trucks. As most of the transit for the first eight years will consist chiefly of railway material and grain, it will be necessary to buy several waggons of a capacity of 30 tons. As a matter of fact, if each axle has to support a weight of 60 tons, the net weight of a waggon will be 9,000 kilog., and it can naturally stand a weight of 30 tons. The cost of these waggons is not high in comparison with the others, and the expenses for repairs equal those of waggons of 15 tons capacity.

It is true that the first lot of waggons ordered were not provided with the same system for coupling as those on the Beyroul-Damascus-Hauran line, but this defect was taken into consideration when the new waggons were ordered, and, moreover, those on the line are being daily replaced.

Damascus.

Having heard that there was a divergence of views as to whether the head offices, factory, and repairing sheds should be built at Damascus, Deraa, or Haifa, I thought it advisable to take this opportunity for giving my opinion on the subject. In view of the fact that the manager of the line must be continually in touch with the officials of the Vilayet, the Administration of the Beyrout-Damascus Railway, and the Damascus merchants, I propose that the offices be established at Damascus, as also the repairing sheds. (The Hedjaz Railway Board are of the same opinion, and the work of construction has started from this base, but the head offices are temporarily established at Haifa.) For the factory and repairing sheds a covered area of 8,000 square metres will be required, and they will entail an expenditure of about 1,000,000 fr., including the cost of machinery. The climate at Haifa is not good, and at Deraa there is no possibility of getting the provisions and clothing necessary for the workmen.

Small repairing sheds, similar to those existing at Maan, Haifa, and Deraa, should be established at Mudaini-Salih, at kilom. 950; Medina, kilom. 1,400; and Mecca, kilom. 1,800.

Concluding Observations.

To sum up, the Hedjaz Railway has been well built, and the work has progressed at the rate of 150 kilom. a-year, which may be said to be a satisfactory result.

The High Commission, having guaranteed the necessary sums for purchases and the building operations, and measures having been taken for the works to advance at the rate of 150 kilom. a-year, the Hedjaz Railway, which is one of the greatest works of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, will be completed in eight years.

The Board of Management and of Works have succeeded in obtaining the best results.

The work done by the Imperial troops has been highly satisfactory and beyond all criticism. But for their services it would have been impossible to have made such rapid progress. The completion of this great line will successfully crown one of the many works of His Imperial Majesty, our August Sovereign.

Moukhtar Bey, who worked with me for six years, and who lately surveyed the line as far as Mecca, has not only shown technical ability of high order, but has now proved himself to be an efficient inspector. Several other engineers also accompanied me, and I can affirm that amongst the graduates of the Civil School of Engineers there are a number of young men who are well qualified for posts of assistant engineers, and even sectional chiefs. By acquiring practical knowledge they will become first-rate engineers. The employment of troops on the line has greatly contributed towards the progress of the works. The contractors would have found workmen as far as Oman and Maan, but not beyond these places.

As a matter of fact, it is thanks to the soldiers that the work on the line has so rapidly advanced, and, taking into consideration the fact that the salaries, clothing, and rations were paid by the Seraskierate, the expenditure is following a normal course.

Generally speaking, the railway is worthy of all praise. The building operations have been carried out satisfactorily, and all the material used is of good quality.

As the line crosses level country, bridges and tunnels are comparatively few. Beyond Oman, however, on the Ain-Zorka incline, a gradient of 20 millim. had to be adopted, curves of 100 metres built, a superficies of 3 kilom. filled in, bridges erected 20 metres high, with ten arches each of 12 metres span, in order to obtain a level over valleys 340, 361, and 310 metres broad. The work on this section of the line has entailed triple expense, as well as thrice the time of construction compared with the other sections. On the other side of Maan, too, there is a slope of 150 metres, called the Batn-Ghoul, and this required a gradient of 18 millim., curves of 100 metres, and the levelling of an area of 8 kilom. The earthworks were executed by 400 soldiers, who also dug a cutting of 80,000 cubic metres within five months, which is likewise a brilliant achievement.

Progress of the work depends on supplying food and water to the soldiers, engineers, masons, and the workmen employed on the works of levelling and construction. As it is difficult to transport these supplies by camel, the railway has to be used. A train service has been organized for this purpose at Maan.

The line crosses several valleys which have had to be spanned by bridges ranging from 3 to 60 metres in length; but as there is a bed-rock at a slight depth serving for foundations, and there is little fear of floods to undermine them, the bridges could be built without inconvenience with an opening of 4·8 and 6·5 metres.

[20361]

No. 50.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir N. O'Connor.

(No. 250.)

Foreign Office, June 21, 1906.

Sir,

THE Turkish Ambassador stated on the 14th instant that the Military Commandant of Medjid had furnished a report with regard to certain proceedings of the British Agent at Bahrain to the following effect:—

One of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade of Bahrain, having been overtaken by a storm off the coast of Tara, had thrown all her cargo, consisting of cereals, overboard. This cargo was salvaged by the natives of Bender Bain, and the crew of the vessel had handed over to them of their own free will, as a reward for their zealous assistance, 500 okeas of cereals, as was testified by declarations duly signed by the crew.

Although all this had taken place in the most regular manner, the British Agent at Bahrain had arrived at Bender Bain by boat a fortnight later, and had forcibly taken off Issa-bin-Mechari, the Sheikh of that village, who had not been heard of since.

The British Agent frequently visited the villages on the coast of Katar for one reason or another, and his threats disquieted the natives.

All these proceedings had a disturbing effect on the minds of the people, and were likely to produce difficulties.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[19549]

No. 51.

Sir Edward Grey to the Earl of Cromer.*

(No. 158.)

Foreign Office, June 21, 1906.

My Lord,

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a Memorandum communicated by the Italian Charge d'Affaires,† respecting the safety of shipping in the Red Sea.

Your Lordship will observe that the Italian Government contemplate the possibility of each Power interested in the security of navigation in the Red Sea undertaking the supervision of that portion of the Arabian coast which is opposite to its African possession.

Such a system of supervision would appear on the face of it undesirable, but I should be glad to be favoured with your observations on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[21274]

No. 52.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 22.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of paraphrase of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 13th instant, on the subject of a flag for Kuwait.

India Office, June 21, 1906.

* Also to Sir N. O'Connor (No. 249), *mutatis mutandis*.

† No. 42.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Mr. Morley to Government of India.

(Telegraphic.) P.

FLAG for Koweit.

Your telegram dated the 18th May.

Instructions to advise Sheikh to bring new flag into use may be sent to Political Agent.

India Office, June 13, 1906.

[21211]

No. 53.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 22.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of paraphrase of telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 17th June, *re* policy in the Aden Hinterland.

India Office, June 21, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 53.

Government of India to Mr. Morley.

(Telegraphic.) P.

POLICY in the Aden Hinterland.

June 17, 1906.

As we understood that opinions expressed in your despatch of the 4th ultimo, which we have had under consideration, did not amount to absolute orders, we thought it better that Resident, Aden, and Government of Bombay should be given an opportunity of explaining if immediate carrying out of new policy would give rise to any serious difficulty or danger. Impression that your wishes have perhaps been wrongly interpreted is raised by your telegram of the 13th instant respecting Treaty of Bada, which we have now received.

On general question we trust that, before new policy is enforced, we may be permitted, on receipt of opinion from Resident and Government of Bombay, to make certain representations on the subject. We are repeating your telegram of the 13th instant to the Resident for his guidance, and your despatch has doubtless also been communicated to him.

[21213]

No. 54.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 22.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, a paraphrase of telegram to Viceroy (Foreign Department) dated the 19th June, *re* Aden.

India Office, June 21, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 54.

Mr. Morley to Government of India.

(Telegraphic.) P.

AFFAIRS in the Aden Hinterland.

India Office, June 19, 1906.

Definite purposes and intentions of His Majesty's Government, not merely general views, were laid down in my despatch of the 4th ultimo. Except in the matter of the prompt withdrawal of troops from Dhal, points of detail as to how effect should be

given to policy were left to the consideration of your Excellency's Government by the despatch.

I shall be glad to learn your views, after consultation with the Resident and the Government of Bombay, on these details and on any questions which concern Aden administration. No action that does not strictly conform with despatch should be taken in the meanwhile. Indeed, in the expectation that your Excellency's Government would apply principles which my despatch laid down to following subjects which I have noticed in the papers forwarded with Secretary's letters of the 12th and 19th April and the 10th and 17th May, I have refrained from commenting upon them. These subjects are encroachments in the Mafalis district, the question of establishing direct communication with Turkish local officials, quarrels between the Humedi and Juledi, continuance of the Dhal civil hospital, and indents for flags for the Political Agent at Dhal.

If my despatch has not already been forwarded to the Resident, please make sure that there is no further delay in doing so.

Your telegram of to-day regarding Bada has just been received. If instructions in my telegram of the 13th June are not understood by Resident, he should telegraph.

[21276]

No. 55.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 22.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a paraphrase of a telegram to the Viceroy, Foreign Department, dated the 13th instant, regarding affairs in Aden Hinterland.

India Office, June 21, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 55.

Mr. Morley to Government of India.

June 13, 1906.

(Telegraphic.) P.

AFFAIRS in Aden Hinterland.

Please see letter from Government of Bombay to Government of India, dated the 20th February, regarding Bada Treaty, which was forwarded with Secretary's weekly letter of the 17th May. Resident will no doubt have received instructions in pursuance of policy laid down in my despatch of the 4th May, to adopt attitude towards Sheikhs, which, unless they insist on it in fulfilment of pledges already given, will render conclusion of Treaty unnecessary. I should be glad to receive report as to whether Sheikhs have made any further communications to Resident.

[21212]

No. 56.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received June 22.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Mr. Secretary Morley, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of telegram from the Viceroy, dated the 19th instant, *re* the Bada Treaty.

India Office, June 21, 1906.

Inclosure in No. 56.

Government of India to Mr. Morley.

(Telegraphic.) P.

June 19, 1906.

ADEN. We are repeating to Bombay and Aden your telegram, dated the 13th instant, regarding Boda Treaty. Secretary's weekly letter of 17th ultimo forwarded the latest communications on the subject. As regards general subject of policy laid down in your despatch of the 4th ultimo, we are telegraphing to you separately.

[21388]

No. 57.

Sir N. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 25.)

(No. 418. Secret and Confidential.)

Sir,

Therapia, June 18, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 400 of the 11th instant, I have the honour to report that I learn through a secret and confidential source that an Imperial Irade has been issued to the effect that the pay and allowances granted by the Imperial Government to the late Ibn Reschid are to continue to be paid regularly and in full to his son Mitnab-er-Reschid.

This decision is worth reporting, in so far as it shows that the Imperial Government intends to back Ibn Reschid's son as against his rival Ibn Saoud.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. R. O'CONNOR.

[20052]

No. 58.

Foreign Office to India Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 27, 1906.

I HAVE laid before Secretary Sir E. Grey your letters of the 28th ultimo and the 11th instant relative to the Muscat Arbitration Award.

Sir E. Grey notes that the negotiations between the British and French Consuls at Muscat have resulted in an agreement as regards (1) the best method of notifying the Award to the subjects of the Sultan, but that they have been unable to agree as to (2) the list of such persons who are still authorized to fly the French flag.

I am directed by Sir E. Grey to state that he has carefully considered the French proposals for a settlement, as set forth in M. Laroche's letter of the 20th April, and that he is disposed to concur in principle with the criticisms advanced by Major Grey in regard to them. He considers, however, that it is manifestly to the advantage of His Majesty's Government to obtain an early settlement of this question, whereas the interest of the French Government cannot, with equal force, be said to lie in the same direction, and that it would be worth some sacrifice, if not of a vital nature, in order to secure this object. Moreover, it will be remembered that, as no French papers can in the future be issued to fresh dhow-owners, the death of the present flag-holders must automatically bring the whole question to an end within a limited space of time, and this fact renders it all the more desirable to dispose, by reasonable concessions, of what might well prove a source of present irritation and friction if the negotiations are unduly prolonged.

I am therefore to suggest, for Mr. Morley's consideration, that His Majesty's Government should accept the whole list of flag-holders submitted by the French Government, without raising any further question as to the validity of the titles they enjoy; and further, that, in spite of section 2 of the second portion of the Award, which debars the transmission of the French flag from one dhow to another, it should be permitted that the papers of one dhow, which has been lost, sold, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of, should be transferred to one other dhow belonging to the same owner. It should, however, be made clear that these concessions only apply in regard to vessels duly authorized to fly the French flag under the terms of the Award, and that the number of dhows thus authorized can in no case be increased. The views already expressed by His Majesty's Government on the point raised regarding jurisdiction on the high seas or in Muscat waters should be maintained. In accordance

with the suggestion made by Major Grey, the punishment attending any infraction of the new arrangement might be notified to the subjects of the Sultan, and the French flag-holders might be informed that they are at liberty to surrender their papers should they desire to do so.

I am to state that, in the event of the Secretary of State for India agreeing generally in the course suggested above, Sir E. Grey proposes to cause a Memorandum to be prepared for presentation to the French Ambassador, which will be previously submitted for Mr. Morley's concurrence. In the first instance, however, Sir E. Grey would be glad to be favoured with any observations or suggestions which Mr. Morley may desire to make on the subject.

I am to add that the French Ambassador has again called Sir E. Grey's attention to the question, and has requested an early expression of the views of His Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. GORST.